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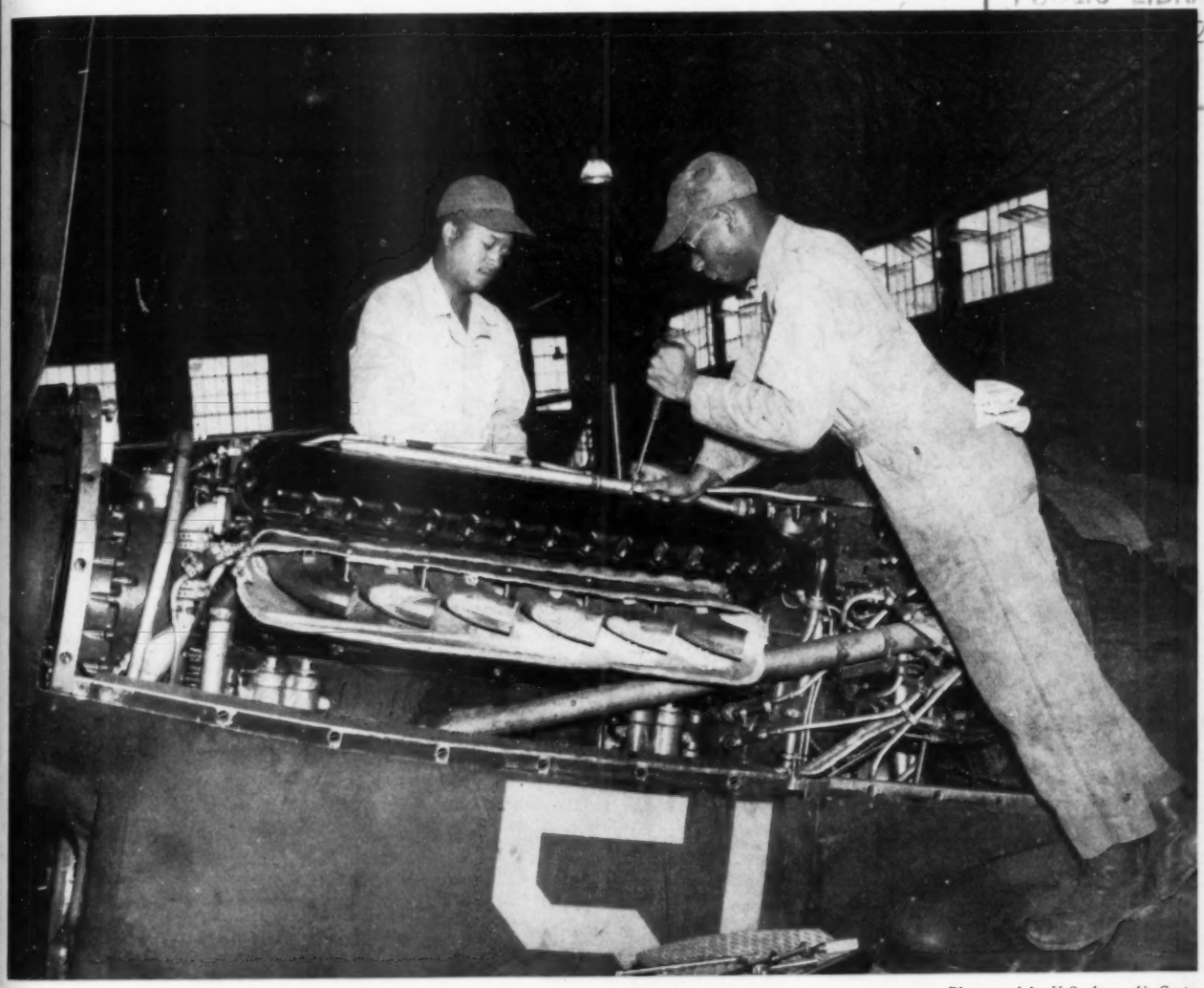

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CHECKING A P-40 ENGINE

RACE RELATIONS, SOVIET AND BRITISH

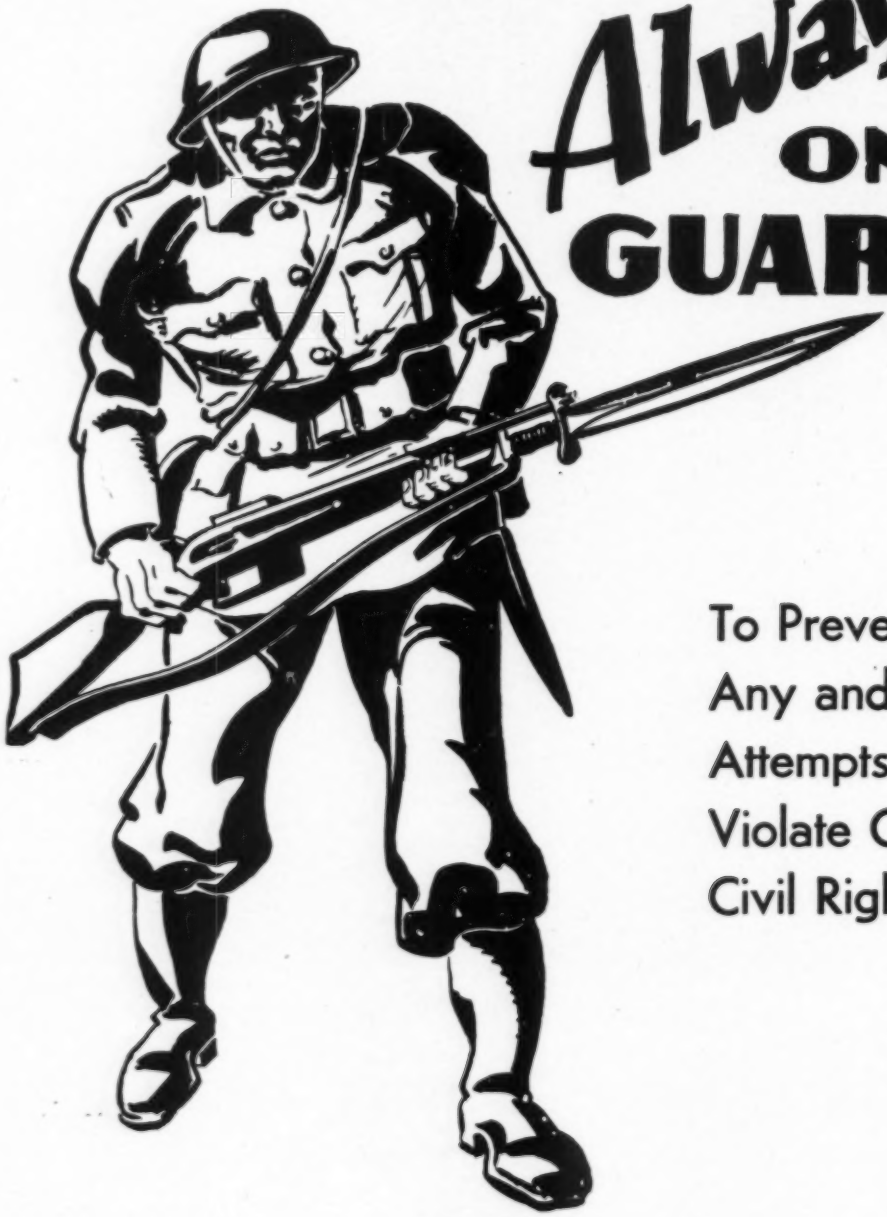
BY GEORGE PADMORE

THE TARKARS: AN AMERICAN EPIC

BY HAROLD PREECE

HARLEM'S WAR ON TUBERCULOSIS

PEYTON F. ANDERSON AND JEROME S. PETERSON



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College and School News

Spelman College has appointed to its staff eight of its alumni. They are: Mrs. Margaret Nabrit Curry, '24 of Atlanta (dean of freshmen); Mrs. Carrie Dukes Rose, '15, of Rochester, N. Y. (Morgan Hall Housemother); Miss Dorothy Nellie Hamilton, '38, of Atlanta (librarian); Miss Dorothy E. Turner, '38, Homestead, Fla. (ass't librarian); Miss Rao E. Jamison, '42, of Cleveland, O. (sec'y Administrative offices); Miss Hazel Davis, '42, of Englewood, N.J. (college post office); Miss Adline Boyd, '41, of Anniston, Ala. (instructing and personnel); and Miss Mary Vincent, '42, of Albany, Ga. (ass't biology lab.)

Giles Hall has been renovated and modernized as a general classroom and assembly building.

New faculty members are Baldwin W. Burroughs of Houston, Texas, and Miss Matilda Lynette Saine of Greensboro, N. Y. Mr. Burroughs will teach English and French and direct the University Players. A Morehouse alumnus, he has an A.B. from Wiley and an A.M. from Northwestern. He has taught at Gilbert Academy and Tillotson College. Miss Saine, who will teach English, is a Spelman '40 alumna who graduated from Atlanta U. in 1942. She has been on the faculty of the Atlanta Univ. Summer School and served as graduate assistant in the department of education.

Miss Marian L. Harris of Miami, Fla., has been chosen president of the campus N.A.A.C.P. at Hampton Institute. She is a sophomore majoring in business. Thomas L. Sims of Hempstead, N. Y., has been elected editor of the "Script", Hampton student publication. He is a sophomore majoring in education.

P. Bernard Young, Jr., managing editor of the *Journal and Guide* in Norfolk, Va., will conduct a laboratory course in journalism at Hampton this year.

More than 200 men have enrolled in Hampton's national defense courses. Most of them are employed in local defense industries.

A total of 1019 students is this term's enrollment.

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Tuskegee Institute workers held their third All-Institute conference on Sept. 7, with Dr. E. V. Hollis, field representative, Commission on Teacher Education; Dr. Charles Thompson, Dean of Howard University, as consultants and Mr. Claude A. Barnett, ANP director, Chicago, Ill. as special guest.

Tuskegee opened its 62nd school year on Sept. 14, 1942, with over 1200 students.

New director of the Tuskegee Institute band is Gilbert A. Baxter, succeeding Captain Frank L. Drye, called to the Army.

Heading the library of the **Atlanta University** system is Wallace Van Jackson, who succeeds Miss Charlotte E. Templeton, resigned. He is a Virginia Union University graduate, A.B. 1934, obtained his B.S. in library science from Hampton in 1934, and his M.A. in library science from the University of Michigan in 1935. From 1939 to 1941 he was enrolled in the graduate library school of the University of Chicago. He had served as librarian at Virginia Union University for 15 years before accepting his present position.

Dr. Ambrose L. Suhrie, an expert on teacher training, is serving as guest professor of education. Dr. Henry Cooke Hamilton is serving as professor of education. Mrs. Dorothy W. Toles is teaching reference and book selection at the School of Library Service, and Mrs. Hallie Beacham Brooks will be in charge of field service, a new department. Serving as exchange teachers in the French department are Mrs. Julia Fountain Jackson of Morris Brown College and Mr. Lloyd B. Stuart of Clark College.

Mrs. Gladys Scott Reid is serving as counsellor to graduate students. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois and Columbia University.

The enrollment in the university system this term is 1,186.

At **St. Augustine's College**, Cecil D. Halliburton has been elected dean by the Trustees, succeeding Reginald L. Lynch who has been acting dean since the retirement of the late dean Charles A. Boyer in 1936. Mr. Lynch will serve as acting dean.

Mr. Halliburton is a Lincoln University (Pa.) alumnus (1923) and was a National Urban League fellow for two years at the New York School of Social Work. The University of Pittsburgh awarded him the M.A. degree in 1933. He came to St. Augustine's high school department in 1924 and became professor of sociology in 1930, and later as manager of the publicity department. He is author of "The History of St. Augustine's college.

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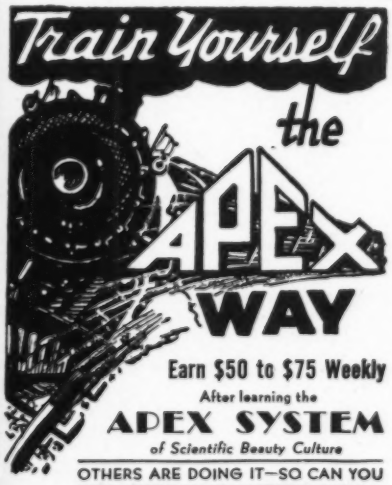

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The Department of Chemistry at **Howard University** has been accredited by the American Chemical Society for the professional training of chemists, being the only Negro institution to be approved.

Howard's School of Music has fifteen highly trained and capable teachers who are artists as well as educators. Warner Lawson is Dean. He did graduate study at Yale and Harvard, and was coached by Artur Schnabel, noted Berlin pianist. He formerly headed the music department at A. & T. College.

(*Continued on page 365*)

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Volume 50 Number 11 *Whole Number 383*

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Non-Commissioned officers at Tuskegee Army Flying School checking engine on noted P-40 fighter plane. Left, Corporal Cecil Cousins, 112 W. 115th St., New York, N. Y. Right, Staff Sergeant Wiseman Vaughn, 4527 Evans Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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ALONG NAACP BATTLEFRONT
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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910 and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15¢ a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

Harry Paxton Howard whose "Americans in Concentration Camps" in the September Crisis created a sensation, will be back again with an equally startling article about India's depressed classes, the so-called Untouchables, the "forgotten men" in all the talk about freedom for India.

There will be an article by Josephine Schuyler on the importance of diet and John Lovell will write on the noted scientist and first Spingarn medalist, the late Dr. Ernest E. Just.

•

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

George Padmore, London correspondent for Negro newspapers and author of "How Britain Rules Africa" is a frequent Crisis contributor.

Harold Preece has written numerous articles for The Crisis on racial and labor problems in the South.

Dr. M. I. Roemer is medical assistant, Bureau of Venereal Disease Control, New Jersey State Department of Health.

Dr. Peyton F. Anderson is vice-chairman, Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee. Dr. Jerome S. Peterson is district health officer, Central Harlem Health Center, Department of Health, New York, N. Y.

•

Editorials

Three For Hitler

THERE was a time when a lynching was something that affected a particular community or state, in some instances the nation. But in this war time a community that stages a lynching is working for Hitler and Tojo. For that reason, Mississippi's shameful orgy of three lynchings within the five days of October 12–17 may be counted three scores for Hitlerism.

On October 12, Mississippi reverted to the old lynching days which many persons thought were gone forever, when a mob hanged two 14-year-old boys who were accused of attempting to rape a 13-year-old white girl. The youngsters were said to have been taken before a judge and to have confessed, which doesn't mean a thing, Mississippi methods being what they are. They were then lodged in jail where the mob "overpowered" the police, took them to a bridge near Shubuta, Miss., and hanged them.

Governor Paul Johnson is reported as being shocked over these two monstrous crimes, but before he could recover, a mob at Laurel, Miss., took a convicted murderer from the jail and lynched him on October 17. The man had had a trial, had been convicted, but had been sentenced to life imprisonment instead of death. The mob did not like that, not when the victim was white and the murderer colored.

These lynchings, bringing the total for 1942 to six, demonstrate once more that nothing short of a federal anti-lynching law has a chance to check mob violence. The states have either made no effort to punish the lynchers, or have gone through the motions of investigating, coming always to the conclusion that the murderers cannot be found. In the notorious lynching at Sikeston, Mo., which ushered in these crimes for the year on January 25, the Southeastern Missouri community virtually told the world through its newspapers and other spokesmen to go to hell, that it would lynch people if it chose to do so, and nobody had a right to object or interfere.

We think Washington has a right, nay, a duty, to interfere. These lynchings are sabotaging our war effort, making it easier for Japan to influence the hundreds of millions of colored peoples in the Far East against the United Nations. American mobs make our ally, China, suspicious of the democracy of white people. Already Gandhi has told the Indian people that America's sincerity can be measured by the way she treats her Negroes. One can imagine what Brazil, our newest and very valued ally, a nation of 25 per cent "colored" according to American standards, must be thinking.

Skin Color and Skill

A GREAT deal of talk has been going the rounds in this country about the ability of the Negro to operate the machines of modern industry. Countless surveys have been made. Books have been written. Both employers and union leaders have maintained that Negroes could not master modern machinery, the employers to cover up their policies of not hiring Negroes and the unions to cover their desire to maintain a lily-white monopoly on the better paid jobs. Much backing and filling has gone on since the nation entered the war. It was actually necessary for the President to issue an executive order to crack some of the doors in industry to men and women who wanted to work but who were prevented from doing so solely because their skins were not white.

On October 1 a correspondent for the International News Service sent to this country a dispatch from "Somewhere in South Africa" which should be the final word on skin color and skill in modern history. Said he:

"Black African natives, with huge wooden disks in their ears for ornaments and their hair in queer mudcaked pigtails, are turning out ammunition for the Allies here in a factory filled with American machinery.

"They arrive direct from the wild interior but within a few weeks the girls, with a sprinkling of men, are working with efficiency equal to that of whites, with modern tools the like of which they never had seen before.

"Hundreds of native workers are turning out thousands of rounds of ammunition a day.

"The munitions factory where they work was an abandoned street car shed 18 months ago. Now it is one of the top units of the South African war effort.

"American machines such as Blisses from Brooklyn, N. Y., make up most of the equipment of lathes, punches and ovens. Equipment from such towns as Waterbury, Conn., and states such as Wisconsin, give an American the impression that he is at home.

"The natives work in eight-hour shifts around the clock with time out for the traditional British Empire tea morning and afternoon.

"Most of the girls who have volunteered have husbands who had already joined labor battalions."

This dispatch proves that the only reason Negroes have difficulty in getting jobs in modern industry in the United States is either that white employers will not hire them because they are dark, or that white workers will not work alongside them for the same reason. It is not because they do not have the capacity for learning and producing. In the present emergency the refusal to employ Negroes is literally giving aid to the enemies of the nation.

Smash the Poll Tax

FOR the first time in many years there is a good chance to get a federal law passed outlawing the poll tax, now required to be paid by prospective voters in eight southern states. The House on October 13 passed the Geyer anti-poll tax bill by a vote of 252–84. The job is now up to the Senate where a companion bill was introduced some time ago by Senator Claude Pepper, of Florida. As this is being written, the Senate judiciary committee is about to report on the bill, and, in the light of the House action, the report should be favorable. By the time this editorial appears the stage should be set for the fight in the Senate. If the bill is not acted upon before the end of this Congress in late December, all the work will be lost.

Every person interested in democracy should write at once to his senators exacting a pledge that they will resist a filibuster if one is attempted, will actively work for the bill, and will vote for it when it finally comes up on the floor.

Christmas Seals

ONCE more the season is here to buy Christmas seals, the most famous of which is the one which finances the fight against tuberculosis. We urge our readers to buy the tuberculosis seals. The various agencies over the country have done wonders for Negro health in combatting this disease among our people. In the home community of this magazine, the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association has a great record of service, deserving of full support.

And then, there are the NAACP seals which have been sold annually for fifteen years to raise additional money to carry on the fight for full civil rights for American Negroes. For the sake of your health and your citizenship protection, buy *both* seals this year and every year.

The Month

War: Death for Second Lt. Faythe A. McGinnis in air crash at Tuskegee flying school, September 12.

To Hampton Institute, now Class A naval school, first unit of Negro men who have passed tests qualifying them for specialists' and petty officers' ratings.

Lt. Col. M. O. Bousfield and Major Ralph B. Teabeau, erstwhile heads of the medical and dental units of all-Negro set-up at Huachuca, demoted; their positions now held by white officers.

"Black eagle" Hubert Fauntleroy Julian lost title of "colonel" with gain of U. S. citizenship and rank of sergeant in the army.

All-Negro aviation squadron in training at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis.

No discrimination for merchant seamen in United Seamen's Service clubs and rest homes.

Labor: Colorado CIO Industrial Union Council on record against racial discrimination in major league baseball.

Negro workers in Kaiser shipyards, Portland, Oregon, fight for equal jobs under union ruling.

AF of L, in convention at Toronto, Canada, scored by A. Philip Randolph for lax attitude toward racial discrimination within union.

Crime: Two Negro youths lynched in Quitman, Mississippi, October 12.

Third Mississippi lynch victim within week, a Negro, on October 17.

Politics: Anti-poll tax bill passed by 252-84 vote in House.

Mississippi's congressional candidate James Arthur Parsons, to St. Louis, a fugitive from wrath of irate white voters.

Education: Pundits Paul Robeson, Alian Locke, Langston Hughes and W. C. Handy to offer one of few courses in Negro history in New York, as lecturers during fall term at the School for Democracy.

Little Rock Negro teachers seek equalization of salaries in court.

Original manuscript of Atlantic Charter, gift to the Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature of New York Public Library, presented by Mrs. Roosevelt, September 24.

Psychologist Kenneth B. Clark to City College of New York, first Negro appointed to regular faculty.

Admission of Negroes to the university demanded by Princeton Students.

Arts: Actors Humphrey Bogart and John Garfield, with Director Lloyd Bacon, on record as opposed to discrimination against Negro actors.

On the road starting the week of September 4, the long-run revival, "Porgy and Bess".

Marion Anderson wooed by D.A.R. to appear in concert at Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C.

Church: Dr. Greene L. Prince, re-elected president of Baptists at sixty-second session in Chicago.

Books: Recently published, first edition of the *Negro Handbook*, information on activities of Negroes in 1941, edited by Florence Murray.

In use as an army handbook, *Chemical Warfare Simplified*, by Lt. Don B. Owens, Jr., Negro veteran of World War I.

Color Line: Dr. Siginald Chantrelle, dentist, transferred from a white camp in Macon, Georgia, to Tuskegee flying school, after first being mistaken for white by Selective Service clerk.

No jim crow for Negro and white officer candidates at Fort Benning, Georgia, who eat, sleep, work together.

For the Navy, no Negro WAVES.

Racial discrimination prohibited in air-raid shelters of New Jersey by act of legislature.

"Honorable discharge" for William Anderson, sworn into marines under misapprehension he was white.

Second Lt. Norma Greene of Tuskegee's medical corps, beaten by Montgomery, Alabama police.

Vigilantes, Inc., for white males only, formed under henchmen of Gov. Talmadge in Georgia.

Denial from Gen. B. O. Davis that southern-borne race hate has penetrated to England with A.E.F.

Women: To WAAC headquarters in Washington, after eight weeks basic training at Des Moines, Irma Cayton and Harriet M. West, the latter as executive assistant. A later assignee to the Capitol, Third Officer Osby.

Mrs. Maudelle Bousfield, Chicago high school principal, on the newly-created Women's Policy Committee to aid in mobilizing women workers.

Highest rated among 6,000 applicants in the U. S. Navy examinations, Evelyn Samuels.

Appointed executive secretary of the Washington Urban League, Pauline Redmond Coggs, ex-aide to Mrs. Bethune.

Dancer Josephine Baker, reported dying of tuberculosis in Casablanca.

Employed in the Ford Company's Willow Run plant, twenty-eight Negro women, one in the personnel department.

Social: Married by New York's Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, Judge Hubert T. Delany and Willetta S. Mickey, on September 24.

International: Barrister Stella Thomas, native of Nigeria, first woman magistrate in West Africa.

Recalled Minister to Liberia, Lester A. Walton, at work in Washington.

Ethiopia now a member of the United Nations.

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc., required by the Acts of Congress of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933, of THE CRISIS, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1942.

State of New York } ss.
County of New York }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared George S. Schuyler, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the THE CRISIS, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
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Editor—Roy Wilkins, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Managing Editor—Roy Wilkins, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Business Manager—George S. Schuyler, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

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GEORGE S. SCHUYLER,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of October, 1942.

SAMUEL SCHNEIDER,
Notary Public.

[SEAL.]
(My commission expires March 30, 1944.)

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Race Relations: Soviet and British

By George Padmore

A comparative study of the treatment of minority groups by the Soviet and British governments, both as educational and social units

AS much as I admire the heroic resistance of the Red Army and Soviet peoples to the predatory forces of Hitlerite Germany, I am not one of those uncritical supporters of the Soviet Government.

There are many undemocratic features of Soviet administration which I would like to see eliminated, but nevertheless, I think the Soviet Union can teach the so-called Anglo-Saxon democracies much in the sphere of interracial relations. For example, the Soviet Government has done more to liquidate illiteracy and raise the cultural level of the former subject races of Central Asia within twenty-five years, than the British Government has accomplished in India and Africa in two centuries. Here, I shall attempt to show how this was accomplished.

To Americans, all of whom speak some variety of the "King's English", the language problem does not have the same significance as it does in Europe or within the British Colonial Empire.

To most European countries—in Germany, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, etc.—it has been the policy of governments to impose the language of the dominant racial element within the State upon the other ethnic groups, denying them, in most cases, the right to use their vernaculars in the schools, places of worship, and as official media of communication. Czarist Russia had been the chief sinner in this respect. The "Russification" of the Czar's Empire had been aimed at extirpating the national languages and cultures of minorities, so that succeeding generations would grow up familiar only with the imposed language and culture of the oppressing Russian nation. This policy, however, had precisely the opposite result from that envisaged by the Czarist autocracy.

Language and Nationalism

With the growth of nineteenth century nationalism in Europe, language assumed almost disproportionate importance in politics. The use of one's own national tongue became a mark of prestige. Arising out of this circumstance, national consciousness among the oppressed peoples and national minorities making up the old Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires, became linked with the necessity to adopt the use of the vernacular. The more rigorously the alien speech and culture were forced upon the oppressed peoples by the ascendant nation, the more bitterly they were resented, and the greater became the determination to achieve national independence and the right to assert the repressed language.

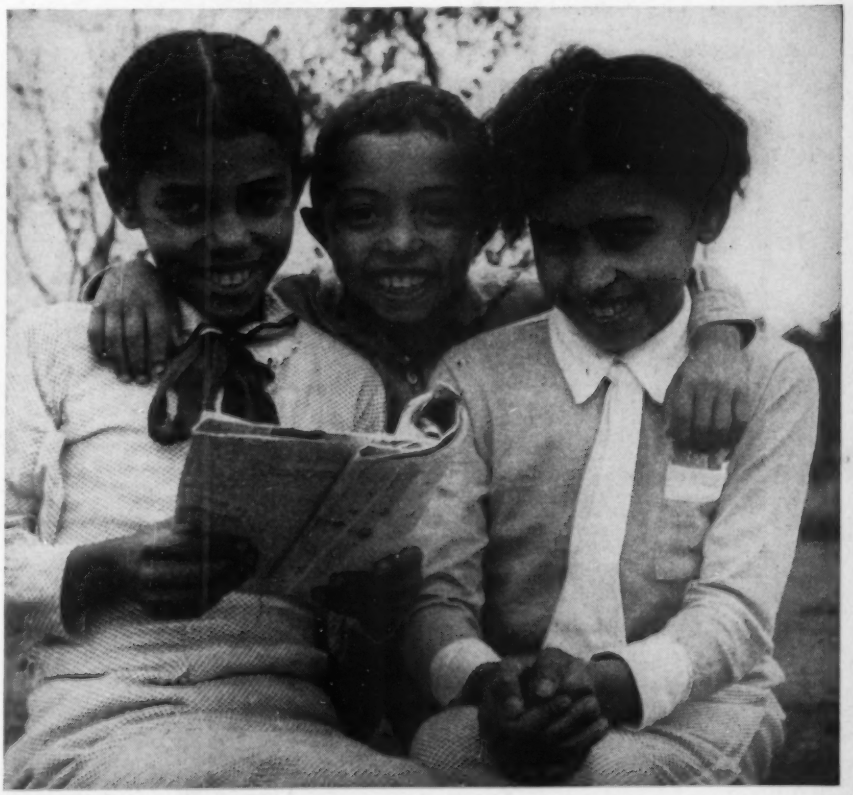
The question of the Afrikaans language of the Boers in the Union of South Africa (like Gaelic in Ireland,) was for a long time a controversial issue in British imperial politics. As a compromise, both English and Afrikaans were given official status when South Africa was granted Dominion status, but the Dutch speaking elements are still trying to make Afrikaans the only official language in order to assert their political domination over the British settlers in South Africa.

In Europe, wherever it was possible for oppressed peoples to wrest the concession from their alien rulers to use the native language there was an efflorescence of literature and drama given over to themes of extreme nationalism.

After the Russian Revolution, there began a great cultural renaissance among the formerly suppressed national minorities. Czarist Russia was not only politically reactionary (like the Fascist countries today), but economically backward.

Culturally, except for the more Europeanized parts, it was positively medieval. Only a small section of the Russian Slavs—the aristocracy and intelligentsia—had been touched by the great cultural influences of the Western European Renaissance and the philosophical ideas of the glorious French Revolution.

The Mongol-Tartar-Turkic races of



Colored children of collective farmers of the N. Lakoba farm located in the Ochemchir district of the Abhazian Autonomous Soviet Republic. Left to right, Abash Nutsa, Shamil Chanba and Tsiba Chamba

the eastern part of the Russian Empire were relegated to what might be called a cultural grave. The Soviet Government, at that time headed by Lenin and Trotsky, had to set about providing these Central Asiatic nomads and primitive tribes the most rudimentary elements of modern knowledge, in order that they might be drawn into the great work of industrial reconstruction which the Soviets were then planning. In this task, Stalin as first Commissar for Nationalities and, himself a Georgian, one of the formerly oppressed races, played an important part.

Women of the village of Guera, Turkmenistan making carpets in the manner of their forebears

Subject People Ignored

Like the British and other Colonial Governments in Africa, Czarist Imperialism devoted very little money to the education of the subject peoples of Russia outside of the restricted circles of the native clergy, such as the Mohammedan mullahs, and the bureaucracy. The educational and cultural needs of the masses were completely ignored. This is not really remarkable when it is noted that even 90 per cent of the Slav population of Great Russia was illiterate. It was this appalling, almost universal state of illiteracy, superstition and cultural backwardness which presented one of the biggest difficulties for the Soviet Government when it emerged from the Civil and Intervention Wars, and turned to grapple with the great problem of rebuilding the country's economy on Socialist lines.

Let us never forget, illiteracy is the backbone of political reaction and Fascism. It is not accidental, therefore, that the native races of Asia and Africa are being kept as illiterate as possible, for history shows that as soon as an intelligentsia emerges among a subject people it becomes the vanguard of the political struggle voicing the national aspirations of the backward inarticulate masses. And as a corollary to this, wherever a people is illiterate, there reaction flourishes. Spain, Portugal, Italy, are examples of civilized nations which come immediately to mind, but even in Germany, formerly one of the most intellectual of nations, the people are becoming more and more unintellectual, as a result of Nazi reaction. The wholesale destruction of the best German thought, the persecution of the most advanced thinkers and scientists who refuse to betray the cultural heritage of a once great people, the propagation of a stupid theory of racism, are all having their effect in undermining the cultural level of the German nation.

Ace political reactionaries find it necessary to maintain a population at as low a level of ignorance as possible. That is why the South constitutes a millstone around the necks of the American people!

"Without literacy", declared Lenin, "only rumour, small talk and prejudices". This aptly summed up the condition prevailing among nearly 200 different races, tribes and peoples making up the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, when Lenin undertook the task of formulating a program of education which would embrace them all, while taking into account their individual national needs. Since Lenin had turned his back upon the Czarist policy of "Russification", the execution of such a program involved the revival and strengthening of the languages of the different nationalities and ethnic groups, which were to be made the media of government in the different administrative units of the Soviet Union.

Education Now Polyglot

The proposal to carry forward the education of the Union's heterogeneous population through a diversity of languages aroused heated controversy in the inner circles of the Russian Communist Party, where the Slav elements looked upon the adoption of a uniform Russian language as the easiest way out. Lenin rejected this contention as an expression of latent Russian chauvinism, of which many so-called communists had not rid themselves. He censured them on the ground that they were supporting a continuation of Czarism, of the process of "Russification", which would in practice annul the Right of Self-Determination effected by the October Revolution.

"If the new Russia was to triumph over the old," declared Lenin, "it must take the opposite road, not the same Czarist one". The old and the new were diametrically opposed; therefore, their methods must be as wide apart as possible. They could not use force. "We must attain our ends", Lenin postulated, "through propaganda, through agitation, through a voluntary union of peoples. The Bashkirs[1] distrust the Russians because the Russians are at a higher level of civilization and have used their civilization to rob the Bashkirs. Consequently in these remote districts the name 'Russian' means 'oppressor' to the Bashkir . . . We must take this into account, we must combat it, but that takes a long time. It is not got rid of by decree. We must go to work on this very cautiously. Above all, such a nation as the Russians, who have excited a wild hatred in all other races, must be particularly cautious. We have only now learned to manage better, and even then only some of us as yet. Thus there are Communists among us who say 'uniform schools', who cry 'no instruction is to be given except through the Russian language'. In my view, a

[1] The Bashkirs were a primitive Turkic tribe with an admixture of Mongol and Finnish blood, settled in the Urals since the ninth century. The Czar and Russian capitalists expropriated their best lands rich with mineral resources, and drove them into the arid parts of the country.

Communist who thinks in this way is a Pan-Russian chauvinist. This tendency still exists in many of us, and we must wrestle with it."

Race-Hate Suppressed

The realist Lenin had no illusions that simply because Czarism had been overthrown and Communists were in power, century-old race prejudice and national chauvinism had automatically disappeared. Vigilance was necessary, and Lenin of all the Communist leaders never lost an opportunity of purging the ranks of his own party of the slightest manifestations of racial hatred. So deep-rooted was the spirit of internationalism within him that he never despised any human being, regardless of race or color. He realized so well that cultural backwardness among some peoples is the result of historic factors. Unlike the Fascist and other reactionary racialists, he rejected the doctrine of the innate inferiority and incapacity of any race. It is necessary to emphasize this, for in Britain and America, there are many so-called left-wing intellectuals, who, while giving lip-service to India's right to Self-Determination, are not prepared to advocate the same freedom for Africans, Malayans, Burmans and other subject peoples. Such peoples, they assert, are not yet fit for freedom. With Lenin, it was all or none. And it was all-civilized Finns, uncivilized Bashkirs. Today the Finns are fighting against the Soviet power, the "savage" Bashkirs are serving in the Red Army, helping to destroy the Fascist plunderers. The genius of Lenin is incomparable; the correctness of his theory is unquestionable.

Application of Soviet Policy

Lenin's forcefulness carried his point in the higher councils of his party. The policy of carrying out education in the native vernaculars was adopted. Many of the people had not even an alphabet, for their language had never been written. For these, alphabets were evolved. Many others had intricate alphabets which were simplified. Most of them were latinized.

A thorough-going effort was activated to exorcise illiteracy. Every citizen in the Soviet Union was accorded the right to education by the Constitution, article 121 of which states: "Citizens of the U.S.S.R. have the right to education. This right is ensured by universal, compulsory elementary education; by the fact that education, including higher education, is free of charge; by the system of state scholarships for the overwhelming majority of students in the higher educational establishments; by instruction in schools being conducted in the native language and by the organization of free vocational, technical and agronomic training for the toilers in the factories, state farms, machine and tractor stations and collective farms."

In Soviet Tadjikistan, a pupil of a Stalingrad school passing her examinations in physics

Difficulties Surmounted

Education in all elementary schools was carried out almost from the start in the native language. At the outset, however, there was some difficulty in introducing the native language into the secondary schools. This was due largely to lack of teachers, and special schools were provided to train staffs. The formerly oppressed nationalities of Central Asia and the Caucasus, had to be specially induced to attend the technical and higher specialized educational institutions. There had been very spare provision of these schools under Czarism. Very few members of the backward races had reached them, and those exclusively the upper strata of the semi-feudal native aristocracy.

In 1914 there were only about 20 natives in the non-classical schools of Russia, while only a few hand-picked individuals succeeded in entering the universities. Asiatics were not admitted to Moscow university before the Revolution. Not a single Tartan, for instance, was matriculated at Kazan university—Lenin's alma mater—until just before 1914, when an occasional native Tartan and Usbek was admitted.

Technical difficulties stood in the way of using the native languages in the universities of the non-Russian national republics, but it was obligatory to reserve two chairs for the national language and the national literature. As these technical language difficulties were overcome, the native language took precedence. But almost everywhere Russian is being adopted as a secondary tongue, for it is but natural that many young people will prefer to read the famous authors, to say nothing of Lenin, in the Russian original, just as many English-speaking people prefer to read Voltaire, Racine, Rousseau, Balzac, Zola, in the original French, Goethe, Schiller and Heine in German.

Illiteracy Decreases

So effectively was the task of exterminating illiteracy tackled that one of the most backward sections of the U.S.S.R.—Buriet-Mongolia, which had been entirely illiterate up to 1925 had already reached a degree of 40 per cent literacy in 1931. Where there had been only 48 schools under the Czar, to which native children were admitted only if they were baptised in the Orthodox faith, and then taught Russian, there were by the end of the first Five Year Plan, a total of 647 schools, of which 285 were conducted in the Buriat-Mongolian language. In some villages literacy was already complete, while the percentage of children between the ages of 8 and 11 in the schools reached 97.6 per cent. Secondary schools, technical institutions and workers' training schools, had been established, and of the students attending them about half were Buriats. In this Buddhist land, the alphabet had been until the Revolution the exclusive possession of the great landlords and Llama clergy, who desperately opposed its latinization by the Soviet authorities, but by 1932 the new script had been universally adopted throughout the Buriat-Mongolian Autonomous Republic.

Prior to the Revolution there were throughout Daghestan, the autonomous republic in the Eastern Caucasus on the Caspian Sea, now threatened by von Bock's army, 82 schools, catering solely to Russian settlers, in which 4,667 students were instructed in the Russian language. There are now well over a thousand primary schools teaching something like 120,000 native children; schools for the collective farms, many technical institutes training thousands of students, almost three-quarters of whom are local mountaineers, Lesghians, Turks and "Mountain" Jews.

There is a workers' university, a number of schools attached to the factories and also to the Scientific Research Institute which was already founded before 1930.

Czarism had seen only a single Kazakh at the university. Of the 89,000 pupils in the elementary school of Kazakhastan in 1915, only 13,000 were actually Kazakhs, the most numerous of the Turkish peoples living within the Soviet Union.

Today, about 10,000 primary schools provide schooling for these tribesmen of the Central Asiatic steppes and the other national minorities living within this federated republic. There are 19 universities and colleges, attended by thousands of Kazakh students, women as well as men.

This is a tremendous achievement, for Kazakhastan is a strong Mohammedan area, and Moslem women were not allowed public association with men until recent years. The cultural and social backwardness of these Asiatic territories under the Czar can be gauged from the fact that in many languages there was no word for doctor, hospital, clinic, etc. This was especially so in the case of Kirghizia, where there was total illiteracy, a very limited vocabulary and no written alphabet. But by 1940, the adult population was 76 per cent literate! Kirghizia advanced so rapidly that it was raised to the status of a full-fledged Federated Soviet Republic in 1936. The republic now possesses 1,754 schools with 300,000 pupils, 5 higher educational institutions, 25 technological institutions for applied science, with thousands of students. From nomads and wild men, these Moslem tribes have been transformed into scientists, technicians, engineers and cultured folk, all within a generation or two.

If we look at the Southern Caucasus, we see the same cultural changes taking place. In the Soviet Republic of Armenia, out of 1,147 schools, 957 were built after 1922, and out of every 1,000 students 81.5 per cent receive secondary education, while 5.8 graduate from the university. In recent years nine higher educational institutions have been set up, enrolling more than 7,000 students. There are 45 technological institutions and 15 institutes for scientific research.

Statistics could be repeated for each of the formerly backward regions throughout the Soviet Union. Suffice it to say that schools are now to be found in every part of this vast country which covers a sixth part of the earth. And their number increases year by year. Every day (obviously the war has interrupted school attendance, especially in the occupied areas) 33,000,000 children go to school in the Soviet Union, as compared with 8,000,000 before the Revolution. The universities have increased from 71 before 1917 to 716, with accommodation for 600,000 as against 112,000 under the Czar. Even in the far north of Siberia, among the scattered tribes of the Nentsi, Mansi, Evenks, Knahte, etc., the Soviet Government is bringing knowledge, where before there was nothing but ignorance and superstition. Without written symbols, these primitive peoples had to be provided with alphabets. Not more than 50 of the nearly 200 peoples and races had written languages before the Revolution. Now that alphabets have been provided, boarding schools have been established throughout the vast Siberian waste, where the children of nomads and pastoral peoples still living in tribal organization, are encouraged to attend at Government expense.

Moslem Women Educated

As far as the women of Central Asia are concerned, the October Revolution brought them a three-fold emancipation; as members of oppressed national groups; as members of an oppressed sex; as members of an oppressed class. These benighted women were urged by Communist women "missionaries" sent from the more enlightened parts of European Russia, to cast off their black horse hair *chachvan* (veil) with which they covered their faces for centuries. This was a bold step for many to take, in face of the opposition and insult from their menfolk. For instance, in 1928 it happened in Uzbekistan that "many women who had unveiled on Woman's Day resumed the veil afterwards, under pressure from relatives and from the counter-offensive which promptly set in, and many of them had to pay with their lives for the brief ecstasy," writes Dr. Fannina Halle, in her classical work on the subject, *"Women In The Soviet East."*

In 1938, there was not a single veiled woman in Bokhara, formerly the stronghold of Mohammedan reaction in the whole of Central Asia. The Soviet Government used all of its influence to urge the women out of seclusion, to placate the century-old prejudices of the men. An old Buriat-Mongol woman wrote how "people came from the town and summoned us women to a meeting. At first we went suspiciously, even in fear. And then it seemed that scales fell from the eyes of some of us. We grasped, though dimly at first, that they were taking us women under their protection, and summoning us to labour. And the days flew past, swifter than deer. Every day we felt more and more the new factor in our lives . . . My inner life grew brighter and brighter, the feeling that a new, really human life was beginning for me grew stronger and stronger, since we women were accorded equal rights." (*"Women In The Soviet East,"* p. 208).

Thanks to these Russian communist "missionaries," the women of Central Asia were drawn not only into the industrial life of their local republics, but into the orbit of the educational and cultural activities taking place all over the Soviet Union. The once enslaved women became the most zealous scholars; young and old joined the special classes organized by the Communist young women sent into the remote regions of Central Asia by the party to teach school and wage war against illiteracy, ignorance and disease. It was not an easy task, many of them were murdered by the tribesmen incited by the Mohammedan priests, but with Bolshevik pertinacity, they achieved their aims. Today the number of Asiatic women occupying high Government positions is steadily rising, and in the Soviet Union there are now more women doctors, dentists and teachers than men. Women have a sort of monopoly of these professions. Only those who had any acquaintance with the closed-in empty existence of the millions of women of the Soviet East can have even the faintest realization of the release and expansion which the Revolution, and the educational facilities provided by the Soviet Government, have brought to them.

Unified Educational Program

The rapid strides towards the complete elimination of illiteracy in Central Asia have been made possible only because of the unified educational program of the entire Soviet Union, and the allocation of funds from the central budget of the U.S.S.R. The program, having been decided upon by the Educational Committee of the Council of People's Commissariat for the U.S.S.R. and the funds allocated to each of the different republics and other administrative regions constituting the entire Union, the educational commissars for their respective areas are responsible for the carrying out of the program in accordance with the local requirements and conditions. And because the needs of the Asiatic parts are greater than the European regions, thanks to the fact that they are more backward, their share of the funds is proportionately larger. Until the present war, about 12 per cent of the entire budget of the Soviet State was devoted to education.

Let us see how education in the British colonies in Africa compare with Soviet achievements in the former Asiatic colonies under Russian imperialism. Up till as late as 1924 education in British tropical Africa was entirely in the hands of missionaries. In that year the Advisory Committee on Education in Tropical Africa was set up by the Colonial Office, and a more definite Government policy declared.

"It was recognized," states Lord Hailey, "that a type of education must be devised suited to the mass of the people." These are grand words, but for all their sentimental worth, education in British Africa after a century still touches but a bare fringe of the population. In none of the Tropical African colonies do more than 20 per cent of the children get any kind of schooling. In Sierra Leonne, where British rule has been running for a century and a half, the percentage falls to 8 per cent.

African Schools Inadequate

But even these percentages are misleading without explaining that for most part the African children attending school never com-

(*Continued on page* 362)

The Tarkars: An American Epic

By Harold Preece

Here is the story of the last of a strong African tribe who were brought to the new world, but never forgot their homeland

WHEN the last Tarkar died a few years ago, Black America lost its one living link with the mother continent, Africa. If one visits deserted "Africa Town" in the dense forests near Mobile, he may unearth some mute evidence of this ancient tribe, wrested from its own soil by the slavers, and finally disappearing as a nation in the mysterious Deep South.

Under the dust gathering for the last 50 years, one may find a moldering wooden doll carved in the semblance of some old Tarkar chief who led his tribesmen on the hunt centuries before the coming of the white invader to hunt down men and women. The visitor will remember that conversation between Kazoola, homesick for Africa, and his former master, Captain Tim Meaher, a year or so after the Civil War:

"Kazoola, what makes you so sad?

"I grieve for my home.

"But you've got a good home.

"Captain Tim, how big is Mobile?

"I don't know. I've never been to the four corners.

"If you give Kazoola all Mobile, that railroad and the banks of Mobile, Kazoola does not want them, for this is not home."

The Tarkars—116 native Africans including a few kindred tribes who had been visiting them at the time of their capture—reached America in the hold of Captain Foster's slave ship, the Clotilde, on a hot August morning in 1859. These 116 were all that had survived a raid made on their village by soldiers in the service of the fierce King of Dahomey who sold thousands of his fellow-Africans into slavery.

In that army of aggression were giant Amazon warriors—women taught to fight and even more cruel to the citizens of the little peasant nation than were the men. Tarkars, cultivating corn and yams in the fields, were slain for fear that they would arouse the village. Babes, suckling at their mothers' breasts were seized by the Dahomey mercenaries, and the helpless parents clubbed to death if they offered resistance.

The world too often hurries by the small race or the small nation in its sufferings as it too often ignores the small man or small woman caught in circumstances which rob that individual of both life and personality. Everyone knows the saga of the English Pilgrims who came to Massachusetts seeking religious freedom and who promptly denied it to everybody else. But America has never known the saga of these black Pilgrims who had lost their freedom and were being brought to water an alien land with their blood and tears.

If the Tarkars had been free to speak on that sweltering August morning as Captain Foster quietly notified Meaher that he had "blacks for sale," they might have echoed the lament of the Hebrew children in captivity—"By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down—we wept when we remembered Zion."

Their burden of fear and homesickness might have been eased somewhat had they known that they would be the last Africans ever brought to America as slaves. In answer to the South's demand for reopening of the slave trade, prohibited on paper since 1808, the working-men and middle-classes of the North were demanding that human bondage be ended forever in America. Two months after the landing of the Tarkars, John Brown was to challenge the slave-owners on their home ground at Harper's Ferry, Va.—and to meet his death like an Old Testament prophet stoned for the truth. Less than a year before in Illinois, a gaunt countryman originally from the southern poor whites—Abraham Lincoln—had vanquished a foppish lawyer, Stephen A. Douglas, in a series of debates on slavery which have now become history.

The Tarkars too are now history. They maintained their identity as a people until the last one died because most of them were resold in a group by Tim Meaher to his brother, Burns. A small band of them were purchased by a planter at Selma, but were able, after the Civil War, to reestablish communication with the main body of the tribe located near Mobile.

Those sold to the Selma planter were given but a few seconds to bid good-bye to their friends and kinsmen. Day by day, guarded with whip and gun, they were marched by a roundabout way through the woods in order that their

Chiefs of the District of Kigezi, S. W. Uganda

guards might avoid detection from the Federal authorities. And as they were marching, a circus of the kind once common to rural America passed them on the road.

The guards hid their captives in the bushes as the procession passed. But one of the elephants happened to trumpet. The Tarkars forgot the strange men with their guns and whips. Their bodies quivered; tears rolled down their eyes, and they began shouting:

"Elé! Elé! Argenacou! Argenacou! (Home! Home! Elephant! Elephant!" And their feet were less sore that day because they had seen the familiar animal which roamed in great herds near their native village.

The Tarkars had been first-class farmers in Africa; they learned rapidly how to farm in Alabama. But in Africa, they had merely to scratch the surface of the soil for a bumper crop. The less fertile soil of Alabama seemed so much desert since one must labor from before sun-up until far into the night to grow food. They were frightened by both mules and plows before they learned their uses.

Said Kazoola in his broken English: "We astonish to see the mule behind the plow to pull." The Tarkars, with their strange talk and equally strange customs, seemed outlandish to the neighboring Negroes. The line of division began to crumble when Kanko, the first of their number to marry in the New World, took James Dennison, a native-born slave, for her husband.

But the Tarkars had this in common with the Alabama-born Negroes—a fierce hatred of oppression. They had barely learned a few words of the white man's language when a plantation overseer tried to take one of their women for his concubine. He was soundly thrashed by the male tribesmen who overpowered him in the field. After that, all of the plantation bosses concluded that "it wasn't safe to fool with them Africans."

Most of the Tarkars were removed to the Meaher settlement at Magazine Point, three miles from Mobile, during the Civil War. Following the collapse of slavery, those who had been left behind on the Burns Meaher plantation rejoined their kin at Magazine Point. There the tribe resumed the simple, communal existence from which it had been uprooted in Africa six years before, hoping that its collective labors might earn enough money for passage back to the old homeland.

The Tarkars built their settlement of "Africa Town" on land purchased from Tim Meaher at an exorbitant price. To pay for that land, they went about half-clad, eating only molasses and corn mush. The men found sawmill jobs at six dollars a week—and tried to save two dollars a week for the expected return to Africa. The women, standing loyally by their husbands, planted gardens and fruit trees, later peddling the vegetables and fruits from door to door in Mobile.

Like the children of Israel when they had left Egypt to settle in the land of Canaan, the Tarkars of Africa Town chose judges to rule over them. These judges were Charlee or Orsey in Tarkar, Gumpa (a Dahomeyan and relative of the ferocious king, presented by the latter to Captain Foster when the Tarkars were originally sold) and Jaybee. Any disputes in the colony were settled by the three judges in a hearing before the whole tribe. Culprits or those who continually quarreled were punished by a set number of lashes, depending upon the offense, administered by one of the judges.

Strict and impartial justice was the rule among the Tarkars, both in Africa and in Alabama. Kazoola, who was steeped in the lore of the old land, told of how the law operated in their home country.

"The law in Tarkar," he said. "If it would be my son. He kills a man. I have wealth—I want to buy my son.

"I go before the King and say, 'Oh, King, my son has killed. But my hands have reaped many bushels of corn. These are all yours to buy my son.' The King would reply, 'Here is the law. Read.'

"I read and say, 'Yes, King, the law says death.' And the King would answer, 'That is the law and I am the King. Shut your eyes; give up your son—money cannot buy.' "

Patriarchal old Charlee survived the other two judges, dying after having reached the hundredth mark in 1914. Negroes living around Magazine Point, relate that he asked to be turned with his body facing east toward Africa when he realized that his time had come. Then he mumbled a prayer in the old tongue and closed his eyes. To the day of his death, Charlee's word was law in the exiled and dying little nation, by that time reduced to less than a dozen souls.

Eight of the native Africans were still living in 1914. Five of these were women: Abache (Clara Turner); Monabee (Kitty Cooper); Shamber; Kanko (widow of James Dennison); and Zooma, of the kindred Tarkbar tribe. The three male survivors were Poleete; Kazoola (Cudjoe Lewis); and Olouala (Orsey Kan).

Even though they had been in America 55 years at that time, the eight survivors still spoke very broken English. Each Sunday, they gathered after church—in one or the other of the cabins to talk in Tarkar. And like the orthodox Jew who prays each Passover that next year will find him in Jerusalem, they never parted at their Sunday afternoon gatherings without speaking of what they planned to do when they returned to Africa.

The Tarkars seem to have followed their traditional religion with its figures of Ahla-ahra (the Spirit of Good) and Ahla-bady-oleelay (the Spirit of Evil) until they were removed to Magazine Point during the Civil War. They knew nothing of the Christian calendar and, at first, worked on Sundays as on every other day. Profiting by this extra labor, the Christian masters made no attempt to teach them differently.

Native-born Negroes of Magazine Point took these overworked, grief-stricken exiles to their hearts, persuaded them to stop working on Sundays, and to bring their families to church. The Tarkars found Christianity very easy to accept—were not Jehovah and Satan simply the names by which these kind strangers of their own color called Ahla-ahra and Ahla-bady-oleelay?

Only old Zooma, the Tarkbar, refused to accept the new faith. For the rest of her life, she continued to worship in haughty solitude the strange gods of the mother continent. Christmas and Thanksgiving were to her holidays of the white man—and she contemptuously refused to take any stock in the white man's inventions. Often, she would take a stick, trace a cross in the sand, and then spit disdainfully in the middle of the most sacred Christian image.

One of the worst tragedies ever to befall the colony was the death of Kazoola's wife, Albine. Wise and motherly, Albine acted as nurse and midwife to the entire tribe. She was very stout when first brought to America and would eat barely enough food to keep her alive. Years afterward, she told a white woman, "Albine not eat when she first come here because Albine know she fat and not want people to eat her."

Children and grandchildren of the Tarkars by native Negroes still live near Magazine Point. But they know little or nothing of the traditions brought from Africa by their fathers less than a century ago. To them, the Tarkar language was just "old folks talk" which made others laugh when they heard it. The heartbreaking dream of returning to Africa left the younger generation cold. If the old folks got any pleasure out of the idea, let them have it. But the young people felt justly enough that they belonged in America.

Needless to say, the planter aristocracy of Alabama was not interested in keeping alive any independent Negro traditions either before or after the Civil War. Had it not been the accepted policy of the slaveowners to scatter members of various tribes throughout the South in order to destroy just such tra-

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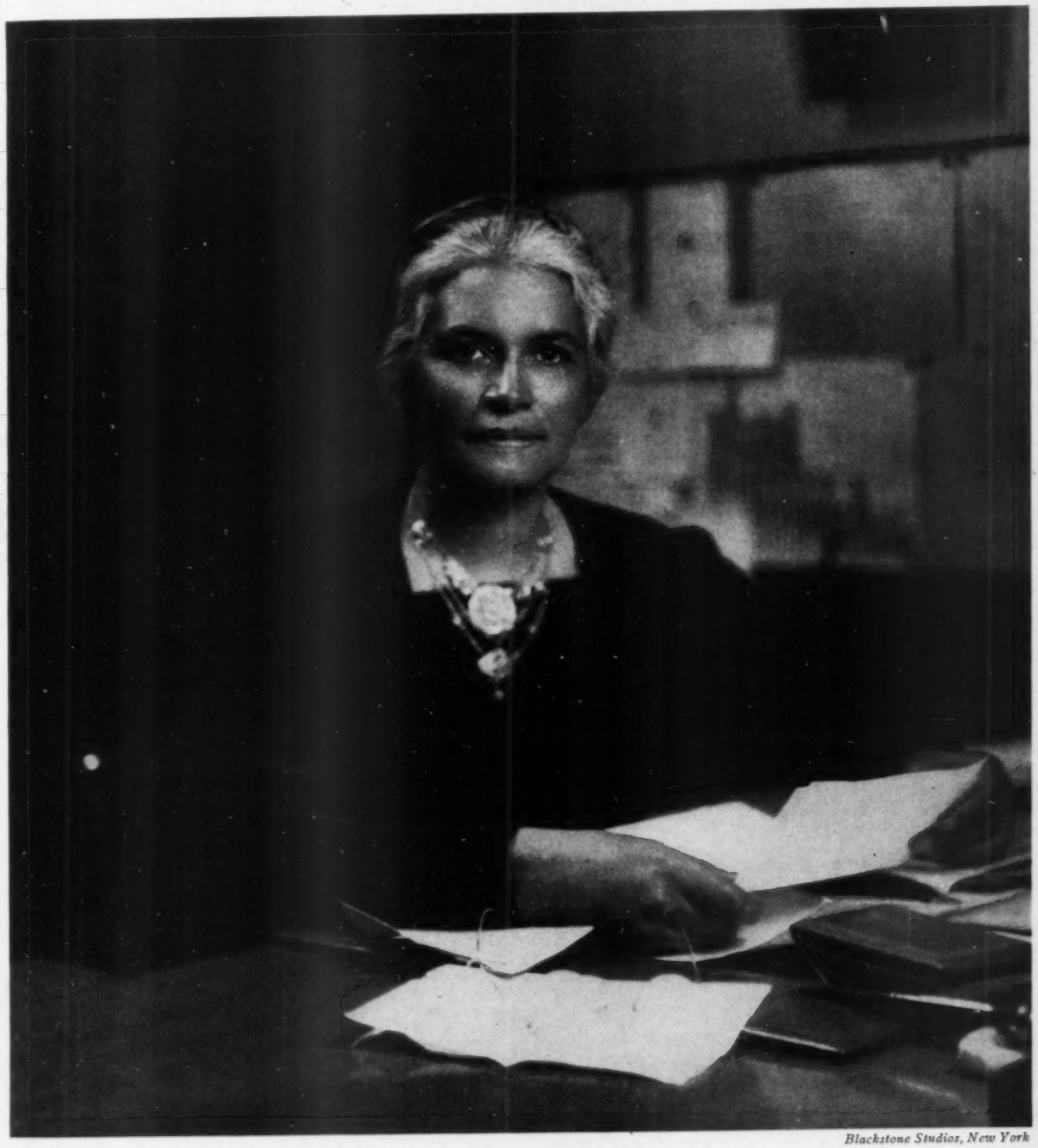
First Ladies of Colored America—No. 3



Blackstone Studios, New York

MRS. GERTRUDE ELISE AYER, vocational guidance pioneer and Greater New York's first Negro public school principal. A native New Yorker educated at the College of the City of New York and Columbia University, she is the wife of Dr. V. A. Ayer. A New York school teacher from 1905 to 1911, she made surveys of Negro women in industry for the federal government and the Consumers' League. She worked with the Henry Street Vocational Service for Juniors until 1924 when she re-entered the schools as assistant principal. In 1934 she became assistant-in-charge of P. S. 24, Manhattan, and in 1936 became principal. In her Harlem school she inaugurated an "activity experiment" to create for the masses of public school children conditions approximating those in private schools. The result was a recent recommendation by educators working for the State Education Department that all New York schools inaugurate the newer methods.

Mrs. Ayer has received highest commendation from U. S. educational experts for accomplishing results creative in aspect under conditions involving every problem except foreign language difficulty.

Bedou, New Orleans, La.

DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN was born in Henderson, N. C., educated in the schools and colleges of Massachusetts. She is founder and president of the Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C., the only finishing school for teen-age Negro youth, with enrollment from 28 states. Dr. Brown holds five honorary degrees, two of which are doctorates of law from Wilberforce and Lincoln universities. She is serving as Coordinator in Civilian Defense in her county, as a State Defense Council member and as a sub-committee member of the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Hostesses and Librarians. Her book of etiquette, The Correct Thing to Do, to Say, to Wear, *has reached a wide international sale.*

She is a member of Boston's exclusive Twentieth Century Club and well known as a lecturer upon interracial subjects in leading colleges and universities.

Lewis Studio, McDonald, Pa.

MRS. JESSIE MATTHEWS VANN, treasurer of the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Courier, world's largest Negro-owned newspaper (circulation 250,000), is a native of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. She received her education in the schools of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and in 1910 married Robert L. Vann, late president of the Pittsburgh Courier, noted attorney and political leader and former assistant to the Attorney General of the United States during the first administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Mrs. Vann has served on the Committee of Management of the Pittsburgh YWCA since the establishment of the colored branch in that city. She is a member of the Episcopal church and an honorary member of Kappa Lambda Mu sorority.

At present, Mrs. Vann is serving on the State Counsel for Defense and with the American Red Cross.

MRS. FRANCES WALDROP EDWARDS and her husband, W. J. Edwards, proprietor of the American Iron and Metal Company, own a large variety of businesses in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Among them are a filling station, lumber yard, garage, and one of the largest, Negro general merchandise stores.

Mrs. Edwards planned and supervised all building and ground construction in the Edwards Addition, a venture representing a $750,000 investment. It has a hundred beautiful, modern homes, all streets hard surfaced, a $12,000 water extension, gas, telephones and electricity. One of its new attractions is the Edwards School, opened September 1, 1942.

A native of Newberry, South Carolina, Mrs. Edwards did her college work at South Carolina State College, Orangeburg. The mother of two children by a former marriage, she has been a school teacher, insurance agent, grocery store operator and a dealer in real estate.

Negro Migratory Workers in New Jersey

By M. I. Roemer

A report based on a summer's observations while doing venereal disease public health work in three central Jersey communities in 1941

NO more abject standard of living is found in America than that among its 2,000,000 migratory agricultural workers. While a considerable share of the burden of harvest labor rests on their shoulders—in time of prosperity, in time of depression, in peace and in war—theirs is the miserable lot of being citizens without a state, without a home, without a shred of security.

At only a two-hour drive from New York City, 4000 such Negro migrants pick potatoes each summer in New Jersey's central counties. The Negroes come from Florida and the Carolinas and settle on the scores of small farms at the peak of the summer harvest. In the early morning and late afternoon one sees crews of Negroes crawling on their knees behind the tractor blades gathering up the potatoes into baskets. The cool "digging" hours which save the potatoes from drying up happen also to prevent sunstroke, but "housemaid's knee" remains an occupational disease of the job. The necessary warmth and rest to treat the knees can seldom be indulged in.

The system of payment provides a maximum of convenience and minimum of cost to the grower. A flat sum for the finished 100-pound bag of potatoes is paid to the "boss-man", a fellow-migrant who pays off the pickers, sorters, etc., and may win or lose by the deal. Yet the growers are far from prosperous; most are forever in debt. Only a fraction of the total cost of production, in fact, goes to the migrants. In August, 1941 when harvest labor cost 8¢ per 100-lb. bag, the market price was $1.15. Migrant costs accounted only for 7% of total receipts.

Living Conditions

The low wages are sometimes justified by the provision of free living accommodations by the growers. A deserted barn is the usual "dormitory," with burlap bags strewn over hay as the beds. Windows are rare, and the odors present a rivalry between horse manure and unclean clothes. In the icy language of a Congressional report of July, 1940, ". . . these people find living quarters in buildings not ordinarily used as habitations." Outhouses are the only means of sewage disposal, and wells—usually within 100 feet of the privies—provide waters which, while technically potable, are commonly muddy and bad-tasting. The staple food item is cornmeal bread made in large loaves in an open pan. Meats are rare, fruits practically absent and milk infrequent. With so little pleasure in such a cuisine, is it any surprise that much of each week's wages is spent on cheap liquor in Saturday night fiestas?

Amid such conditions—even worse in the south—it is obvious that disease should be rampant. The most overwhelming plague is venereal diseases, the prevalence of syphilis reaching the astonishing total of 30%. The grower's usual explanation is "they just don't have any morals." Dr. Parran has shown, however, a direct relationship between economic level and syphilis prevalence among whites as well as Negroes. With little in way of recreation or culture to substitute for sex drive, with families torn asunder by constant mobility, it is natural that indiscriminate sexual relations should be commonplace. And since proper prophylaxis requires both money and education, both of which are lacking, a high venereal disease rate is the inevitable result.

Workers Disease Ridden

But syphilis isn't all. Hardly a major cause of death in America is not higher among Negroes: heart disease, pneumonia, tuberculosis, accidents, acute infections, even female cancer. The reason is always increased environmental stress combined with poor medical care. The migrants illustrate both effects acutely. On a single morning, for example, in one of the "blood-test clinics" the writer observed: a 30 year old woman with hyperthyroidism, untreated; a 20 year old girl with an eyelid abscess; a 50 year old woman with unrealized heart disease and a leg wound badly infected; a one-month infant with probable gonorrheal infection of the eyes (on the way to blindness); a 33 year old woman with a large abdominal tumor unknown to her; a 56 year old man with a chronic bone infection in his working hand; a 48 year old man with advanced syphilitic heart disease; a 45 year old man with horrible deformity of the leg which might readily have been corrected by surgery but now disrupting his entire working life; and so forth.

Such were some of the conditions apparent on crude inspection. Careful examination would disclose much more, troubles not usually acute, but sapping energy and often preliminary to serious disability later.

Medical Facilities

But why are their illnesses so poorly provided for in the south? The answer is obvious from tale after tale of complete lack of physicians, many-mile walks to small clinics, exorbitant fees charged by private physicians for "shots to clear up the blood," thorough-going mismanagement in many cases, due more often to medical indifference than ignorance. Typical was the account of the "old" man of 40 (the migrants usually look 10 to 15 years older than their age) who presented himself with early signs of syphilitic heart disease. He had attended a clinic 14 miles from his home some years ago. Eventually this became too great a strain so he went to a nearby private physician who charged him $5 per injection. At this rate (and in this state anti-syphilitic drugs are available to any practitioner free from the government) treatment could not be continued for long. So it was stopped and the disease progressed. This man's life expectancy is reduced at least 15 years from his heart involvement.

The primitive state of southern rural medicine is widely recognized. But how are health services for the migrants when they are up north? Hardly different. In the potato counties the nearest hospital or clinic open to migrants is 15 to 30 miles from the farms. Private physicians seldom have much time for migrants. Not even first-aid facilities are available on most farms. And living conditions, chief health determinant, have been described.

The State Health Department, concerned with possible disease transmission to the native population, has carried on a venereal disease control program for several years. A more restricted tuberculosis survey has been conducted with chest fluoroscopes. Yet even with venereal control there are serious han-

(*Continued on page 364*)

Warring Against Tuberculosis in Harlem

By Drs. Peyton F. Anderson and Jerome S. Peterson

A BRIEF RETROSPECT OF THE HARLEM COMMITTEE'S HISTORY

By Peyton F. Anderson, M.D.

These talks given at Twentieth Anniversary of Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee of New York Tuberculosis and Health Committee of New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, outline the important work accomplished in the war against the White Plague in the world's largest Negro community

THE Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee, a public health project, has completed twenty years of service. An ambitious attempt at long-range community planning, it employs accepted public relations methods and from its infancy has been as malleable that new health education tactics might be developed when and where needed. It directs itself specifically toward an area in which there long has been unwholesome socio-medical conditions based largely on faulty economics. The Committee originated to improve health conditions for one-third of a million persons. Accordingly, sickness and health problems of much concern to the entire city approach solution. The effort is of city-wide influence and has extended to other communities, and even into other countries.

At the outset, it was agreed that a factor of prime importance for successful program planning was to use the Negro and all of his common denominators as well as any peculiarities of race, to the fullest. The planners gave prominence to racial psychology in all phases of its work, and the results vindicate this policy.

When difficulties arose in finding trained Negroes for special fields, the Committee got training for qualified persons. For example, several important clinics carrying large numbers of tuberculous patients did not have any Negro physicians or nurses on their staffs. This did not seem to make ordinary horse sense. Service opportunities for Negro nurses in these clinics were secured and they were installed. Negro physicians had to be trained, and in two notable instances physicians assigned for training are now Department of Health physicians-in-charge of clinics whose aggregate case load is huge. The community quickly appreciated such practice and an evident uplift of community morale resulted.

The planning groups firmly established the work of the Committee as predicated upon honesty of purpose for cooperative action. Purposes and expectations gained the approval and support of other social agencies and the Committee in turn aligned itself beside all other worthy agencies and community institutions.

The list of those assisting the Committee in some valued way is long and includes medical and nursing groups, public and parochial schools, churches of every denomination, industrial plants, shop keepers, social and welfare agencies, theatres, the press, radio stations, insurance companies, public utilities and many others. Rating above these might be placed individuals of the community whose unlimited contributions of personal service gave vitality to the program as nothing else could.

An early public meeting was addressed by Dr. Henry Minton of Phipps Institute, Philadelphia, one of the few Negro physicians actively engaged in the clinical side of tuberculosis. This pioneer in a to-be-explored realm of Negro life remains as an inspiration for Negro tuberculosis workers now trained or in training to assume their responsibilities in this field. For when tuberculosis is reduced to an irreducible minimum, it must and shall be said that Negro workers have contributed in a major way to its eradication.

The job is still a big one. The budget always was and is painfully small. Laudable results are credits to the intelligence and abilities of paid staff, and Committee members, and friends who worked as conscientiously as though on the pay roll. They brought fresh

Courtesy of New York Tuberculosis & Health Association

A Harlem Committee Exhibit in a Theatre Lobby

Leaders of young people's organizations in central Harlem discuss social hygiene problems

minds and clear thinking unbefogged by any taboos. They knew nothing of "can't do." Money seemed only incidental and a sort of nuisance which must be found for their explorations into untried fields. No scheme which might advance their plans for improving the health of the community could be too costly nor too difficult if after careful deliberation it seemed worthy of trial. For example, the Committee advocated chest X-rays of every person applying to any clinic for any type of medical service. The cost item largely prevented this and yet the Committee still feels certain that the idea merits approval.

The Committee has anticipated and in instances discarded procedures which have become important techniques in the national program for alleviating health problems of Negroes.

Creating Awareness

A first step in the Committee's approach to its job was to create an awareness of leading disease problems in the community. Tuberculosis received the most attention. Studies by honest workers had shown that this disease ranked high in the community as a cause of sickness and of death. The ratios of whites to Negroes were accepted and made a sickening impact upon the thoughtful. The nauseating formulae of four to one, three to one, and ten to one challenged many persons and energized determination to make the picture less gruesome. Negro professional men refused their aid to a project which would emphasize an unwholesome feature of Negro life until they realized that much lay within their power to correct or to minimize a racial health maladjustment. Heart diseases, accidental deaths and pneumonia were listed almost co-equally with tuberculosis as health hazards but they had not acquired the sinister implications of tuberculosis. Professional Negro workers saw an opportunity for a dual assault upon the disease itself as well as upon malicious unfavorable publicity so often associated with tuberculosis among Negroes.

Professionals had also to be convinced that their community was not being used as a guinea pig. They were assured that several other sections of this city presented as great problems from the health angle as theirs and that they might be able to show those sections how to tackle the job. As demands came in, the Committee became of considerable assistance to other parts of the city, state and remote places. Tuberculosis became the challenge toward which first concentrated efforts were directed.

In 1923 an institute for physicians was organized in cooperation with the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association. This was the first such institute known to have been held under neighborhood auspices in the country.

Twenty hours of lectures, clinics, ward work and demonstrations were provided, and private physicians quickly filled the quota. For the institute which was a postgraduate course, excellent clinicians, research workers and technicians were secured. Great hospitals, clinics and laboratories furnished every type of material. Some of them willingly considered the institute physicians as guests. For five years subsequently the institute carried postgraduate courses, devoting more time to conditions such as heart diseases, the venereal diseases, diabetes and other chronic intoxications which deplete the human body and prepare it for invasion by tuberculosis. The institutes opened avenues through which unlimited benefits accrued to the community and they were discontinued only when it was felt that aroused awareness among professional workers warranted diversion of energies into other fields.

Health Officer Appointed

Out of the institute came a train of circumstances which led medical men to improve their knowledge so that their services to the community might become more effective. It is worth recalling that this "train of circumstances" indirectly gave us a health officer in charge of a Health Center now concentrating upon the job of protecting the welfare of more than 200,000 persons. It also opened clinic and hospital opportunities for training physicians and surgeons who are now contributing in valuable ways to control efforts in places where the need is great.

It is interesting to note that even as disease knows no color, those engaged in checking disease are working closely with groups who know no color. The Committee supported the premise that not only should Negro physicians be trained but that their training opportunities should be continued through all years of practice, and that for this purpose places in clinics and hospitals should be made for them. In a number of cases this was done and hospitals were looked upon more favorably by the community, and isolation of the sick was made easier.

Earlier hospital care for the tuberculous sick has demonstrated its value by the increasing numbers cured. In this connection, it is worthy of mention that the first Committee members, both professional and lay, had seen practically no cases of tuberculosis which had through cure been returned to useful daily life. This has changed. Now there are scores of healed cases who have returned from hospitals to their families and to their jobs. Return to family is commonplace. Return to job is difficult. The curability of tuberculosis is a fact that conflicts with long-held notions. The label, tuberculosis, clings long after cure is effected. Insurers of employees see the old label and have only inadequate criteria for handling those recovered. These factors make return to the job exceedingly difficult, but now, with emphasis centered upon rehabilitation, a solution for this troubling problem will be found.

The Committee also reasoned that where plans are specifically designed for Negro betterment, materials such as leaflets, throwaways, pamphlets and posters should depict Negro professional workers as actually engaged in every type of service. This premise attained acceptance and Negro doctors were portrayed examining patients, interpreting X-rays, and advising the sick. The idea was adopted by the Department of Health which has made several fine paintings of Negro subjects for its health education program.

These paintings are so valued that they are loaned only to those responsible agencies which will guarantee their safety.

In 1924 the Committee was responsible for setting up a model dental clinic as an educational factor and as a demonstration of what should be done to meet the need of dental hygiene for children and pre-natal mothers whose incomes do not permit private care. The clinic was staffed by twelve dentists who for the greater part of a six-year period worked on a voluntary basis and for a short time served as part of the demonstration of a self-sustaining clinic. In 1930 the clinic was discontinued when the Department of Health

assumed that the job was rightfully theirs.

The Committee probed in many directions. It also declared war upon all other conditions which prevent good health. It knew that tuberculosis is not an isolated entity but is an end-result of small and large combinations of social evils.

A Widened Program

A special group of health speakers, mostly community physicians, was trained in cooperation with the New York Tuberculosis Health Association. Calls for them came from social, church and fraternal groups. Speakers, when requested, went into every section of the city and to other cities and states. Although a great deal of interest in this type of service is now diverted to the sale of war bonds, annual requests come from neighboring communities for speakers to spark plug their health programs. Industrial plants and the radio also gave many hours to the speakers' service.

Health examination clinics were established in cooperation with the Dispensary Development Committee and staffed by physicians and nurses working under the auspices of the Committee. Sometimes the nurse was from the Harlem Committee's office or field staff and at other times she was loaned by a public health agency. The physicians served without pay. This type of clinic was open to any apparently well person desirous of a medical examination for which he was unable to pay. Persons attended by appointment to insure adequate time for the medical examiners to make a thorough physical check-up. The examination extended as far as possible into such items as family disunities, job difficulties, stultified ambitions, and many others, in the hope that through counseling and material assistance wherever possible, improvements in mental health might be reflected beneficially in physical health.

The Committee long ago advocated X-rays for entire communities as the most successful method of screening tuberculosis from a well community.

It has always been possible to rally powerful interests for providing more isolation areas for the sick poor, but the idea that they might better concentrate upon getting more bread and butter for marginal persons met only with lukewarm responses, until an expanding social vision national in scope focused attention upon the essential one-third requiring study and action.

The theme of "tuberculosis among Negroes" differs in no way from that of tuberculosis among any other sub-group. The Committee does not believe that dirt and poverty are satisfactorily separable, nor does it feel that propaganda, no matter how thoroughly ballyhooed for men with money in their pockets, can be effective among those chained to inadequate pay for excessive labor. Nor does the Committee know of any studies of tuberculosis to determine how much the mortality rate of the impoverished can be changed by granting thousands or millions the means of earning sufficient to insure decency and dignity. As long as evils inherent in faulty economics remain, just so long will inordinate amounts of all sicknesses remain. The Committee's health program has been seriously hampered by this economic impasse.

In the spring of 1929 the Committee held an all day health conference in Harlem. Among the important decisions reached at that conference was one that a local health center would be a definite asset to the public health program in the community. At a subsequent all day conference held in the fall of 1929, Dr. Shirley Wynne, then Commissioner of Health of the City of New York announced the plans for such a center to be established by the Department of Health the following year.

The Committee interested itself in fresh air activities for children. Camping opportunities were obtained through civic-minded persons, philanthropic organizations, newspapers and funds. Although numbers of children went to camps under Committee auspices there remained a need for widened camping facilities which has not been adequately met. Incidentally, the children went to mixed camps and many asked to be sent again.

Through nutrition classes many children who are now adults were instructed in food values and food selection. Much of the Committee's effort was directed toward children. One committeeman often reiterated his stand that he had little desire to attempt to educate mature persons because the returns were too small. Children and young adults, however, proved fertile fields for developing old truths and for inculcating new. Nutrition classes were very well attended. Lessons were given through movies, lectures, a health clown, plays, games, pantomime and demonstrations. Occasionally the child groups went into the public schools with their plays. A favorite was one in which the young actors were costumed as vegetables each with a message to convey through words, songs, dances or pantomime. This venture although largely local, antedates the present national and even continental interest in nutrition for health. The nation is just beginning to learn salient facts about food. That the Committee was on the right track is pleasant to recall. This exploratory probe, as with many others, sought to demonstrate to responsible functional agencies unmet needs. There could be no intent of continuously meeting the need by the Committee. Its job consisted of finding the need whatever or wherever it might be and then finding the agency equipped and willing to assume the task of meeting it.

The Information Service

A most valuable item was the information service. It met needs of the medical and nursing professions, the laity, and those institutions and agencies whose programs projected into the Harlem area. It aided physicians in adjusting patients mentally and materially when sickness invaded homes. Applications for information came from all parts of this country and from Panama and South America.

The Committee has distributed tens of thousands of pieces of health literature. This material was provided, on request, by insurance companies, the Departments of Health and Hospitals, the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association and kindred organizations. The supply was always generous, and if the type of material desired was not available, conferences with some of the above met sympathetic understanding and most often resulted in the production of health education materials more valuable than the usual kinds for a Negro community.

The New York Tuberculosis and Health Association is the parent body of the Committee and its large resources in materials and personnel were always at the service of the Committee. Its executives in some instances have made themselves a necessary and integral part of all Committee deliberations. The Committee has long had representation on the Board of the parent body.

The National Tuberculosis Association each year sounded the keynote of the Early Diagnosis Campaign around which the core of the Committee's program centered. For this campaign exhibits were set up in carefully selected spots. The largest was held in the Armory of the 369th Regiment with nineteen agencies cooperating. Besides special exhibits, permanent exhibits were placed in clinics and in the headquarters of the Committee.

In the recent past when gonorrhea and syphilis were elegantly termed social diseases in literature and in polite gatherings, an intensive campaign of public and professional enlightenment concerning these conditions was projected by the Committee. First, Negro volunteer professional workers were given modern training in the venereal disease clinics, wards, lecture rooms and laboratories in city hospitals, and the Department of Health. This occurred only after assuring the professional workers that the Negro was not to be singled out as chief venereal disease villain who as such was to be placed on public view to his greater humiliation. Attack upon venereal diseases was to be city-wide, as it now is, and indeed nation wide, as it is yet truly to become.

Confidence acquired through training added valuable physicians to the speakers bureau. Some have now served in venereal disease clinics for years. Small groups associated through a common interest seemed good soil for implanting information about this subject. Women whose chief interest from the beginning of civilization has been the welfare of children, born and unborn, sought information about venereal disease, sensing, even before knowing that prenatal illnesses endanger the child in utero and in life.

Whenever possible after lectures or demonstrations for the public about social hygiene, question periods brought out truths of unquestionable value, and usually the question period had to be arbitrarily halted because of time or physical limitations.

The dental clinic opened its facilities to expectant mothers. The mooted question of birth-control also was attracting notice throughout the community, provoking thought about the control of births associated with venereal diseases.

Mental health received attention to a limited extent. The field was new and techniques for an approach were only developing.

The Committee earned respect. It scanned practices in institutions partially or entirely subsidized by public funds and if they smacked of discrimination or other injustices to citizens it remonstrated until corrections were made.

The tuberculosis unit of Howard University Medical College represents much of what the Committee envisioned,—adequate training for under-graduate medical students and post-graduate opportunities for practitioners.

A large number of personalities might be mentioned who contributed immeasurably to the successes of the past twenty years. No one of these can feel offended in my selection of one for mention, Mabel Keaton Staupers, a national figure now, who as the first executive director of the Committee was a most fortunate choice. She brought intelligence to the program. She never spared herself and set up driving impulses in her associates. She attained major status when she overheard a youngster in the street say, "—there goes that tuberculosis lady."

The Committee's work is not finished. Its worth is well established. Its aspirations are unbounded. Its inhibitions are nil. Its inspirations have touched many far and wide. The committee is proud and reasonably so, of its successes.

OUR ALLIES IN HEALTH

by Jerome S. Peterson, M. D.

Our common everlasting struggles against the forces of disease and death must make allies of the widely diverse groups in our district. With the Health Department and physicians to provide the lead in preventive medicine, with the medical profession and hospitals to provide the all important care of the sick, and with the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee to provide the impetus and technical talents in bridging the gap be-

tween these facilities and the public, there exists a formidable triumvirate.

From the first three: the Health Department, the voluntary and governmental hospitals, and the medical profession, little more can be asked—they bring the best and latest in medical and public health skills to the community. But from the last, the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee much is asked—the awakening of an ever changing community to the facts of health and good living. This can be attained only through the communities churches, agencies, organizations, and clubs. It is a highly diversified group of allies and includes ministers and bridge players, intellectuals and illiterates, social workers and cafe society, teachers and students, workers and idlers. All must be allies, however, in the common cause of spreading the knowledge of health education until the forces of disease and death shall have reached their minimum.

From the administrative health viewpoint Harlem is known as the Central Harlem Health District of the Health Department and roughly covers a territory from Third Avenue and the Harlem River on the east to Eighth Avenue on the west, from 110th Street on the south up to 155th Street. Two hundred and ten thousand people live here and 90 per cent are Negroes. There are nineteen other administrative units in New York City of ranging size and population. Our nearest neighbors are the East Harlem Health Center and the Washington Heights-Riverside Drive Health Center. Each of the nineteen centers is a local branch of the Health Department. For each district since 1929, records have been kept on a district basis, so that the workers in each district may know the particular health needs of the residents of that district.

Public Health Enemy No. 1

If any one disease is to be designated as Public Health Enemy Number One in Harlem, it will be tuberculosis. Furthermore, tuberculosis is on the rise. Two hundred more cases of tuberculosis have been reported in the city this year than for the same period last year and four hundred more than for the same period in 1940. War brings with it increases in tuberculosis morbidity and mortality for non-belligerent as well as belligerent countries. This rise is associated with nutritional deficiencies primarily and with housing, fatigue, exposure and increased disease incidence in general. Health education can and must play a prominent part in stemming it. The factors in tuberculosis are complex. The much less easily controlled factors are the sociological, economic, housing and employment factors. Health education plays a tremendous role in tuberculosis control and the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee must continue to put a major part of its time and effort into the struggle. In New York, tuberculosis mortality has always been several times higher in the Negro than in the white. Both rates have declined but the rate among Negroes has declined much more slowly than among whites. Tuberculosis still remains one of the first causes of death among Negroes but has fallen to seventh place among whites, ample proof that the mortality can be reduced. There are in New York City ample case finding, diagnostic and supervisory services. The number of hospital beds, and the hospital bed to death ratio while not ideal, nevertheless does provide the opportunity to hospitalize any needy cases of tuberculosis somewhere. It is not within my province to discuss the socio-economic problems involved in tuberculosis control, though they are no doubt the greatest, and a satisfactory control will never be attained until they are solved. We should be able to look forward to our allies in health so educating the community that it will be the socio-economic factors alone (which we hope will be met on other fronts) that contribute to our morbidity and mortality here in Harlem. Health education remains as one of the weapons that can and should be used more and more in the fight on tuberculosis. Here again, the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee leads as the technical advisor and organizer with its experience, methods, materials, and knowhow. If through his leaders, churches, clubs, and welfare agencies, every resident of Harlem gets to know what tuberculosis is, that it can be treated, and where he can be examined, and gets to want to know whether he has it, to be examined and to be treated, we can expect with economic betterment to enjoy the low rates of the city. The problem revolves around the sincere cooperation and interest of the community as represented by its leaders and groups.

One of the biggest problems is rehabilitation of the tuberculosis patient discharged from the sanatorium to his home. It is properly the function of health education agencies to explore the fields where opportunities might exist for rehabilitation and to awaken interest in the whole subject.

An outstanding example of a community health problem in which education is an important factor, and in which the help of these same leaders is needed, is the problem of social hygiene. This includes the control of venereal diseases, especially syphilis and gonorrhea. The social hygiene problems of Harlem and of New York City are many and inter-related. Social hygiene education includes far more than education about the prevention and treatment of syphilis and gonorrhea. It means fundamentally education for healthful and effective living, education which lays the foundation for well rounded adult personalities, successful marriages and family life. Here the help of community leaders is essential.

Scientific Facilities Available

It is equally needed in helping people to understand the facts about syphilis and gonorrhea. Harlem and New York City have the most up-to-date scientific facilities for their discovery and treatment. The best in diagnostic procedure is available—dark-field microscopes, serologic tests, microscopic examinations of smears, culture media, Frei test material, spinal fluid examinations, urinalysis, hemoglobin tests—are there for use. Therapeutic agents: sulfathiozole, sulfadiazine, arsenicals of all kinds, heavy metals, are available. Physicians skilled in the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures are in attendance. Hospital beds are set aside for patients needing special attention.

These facilities are of no avail unless people use them and use them early. They are wasted if patients who have syphilis and gonorrhea do not continue treatment until cured. It is more important than ever that every available hour of these facilities be made to count at a time when doctors and nurses are being withdrawn to meet war needs.

There are several answers to the question of how to control venereal disease. To treat the early cases is one answer, but only one. It is the one the Health Department is directly concerned with through its case finding, diagnostic and treating facilities. The other answers, equally or perhaps more important, are disease prevention through continence and/or prophylaxis. No matter to which school one belongs, the role of the other school must be admitted. Those who write mostly on continence, have tucked away toward the end of their articles some prophylactic measures and those who urge realism and talk of prophylaxis include advice on sublimation, healthy wholesome recreation, etc. Whatever the philosophy, as soon as we have set up facilities for discovery and treatment, health education must step in. Health education here is represented technically by the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee which operates with the Health Department, a joint Program of Health Education. I say technically advisedly because health education in its broad sense is a duty and function of the individual, of the agencies, organizations, clubs and churches, to the individuals within that community. But actually the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee provides the skilled workers in health education, those trained people acquainted with the techniques, procedures and methods necessary to put across a program. Through experiences with the community and its reactions the Committee has the know-how in health education, can organize and direct and has available, after due selection, the best in literature, films, exhibits, posters and other materials.

Problem Must Be Realized

Obviously this highly skilled but small group cannot reach out to all the two hundred and ten thousand inhabitants of this health district. But they can and should be the highly welcomed advisors and helpers to the hundreds of organized groups in the community. So the next step in venereal disease control, to be specific, is for all the churches and agencies to realize that there is a definite and real problem of venereal disease and to set about correcting it, urge people to find out whether they are diseased or not, get those needing treatment promptly under care, set about preventing disease. Any group worthy of its name, title or banner, has that just obligation to its members. The way to do it is easy. Get in touch with the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee and announce your interest. Conferences will be held to determine the type of audiences to be reached, their age and sex make-up, available time and special characteristics. A program will be planned with you, specifically for your group—tailor made. Leaflets, booklets and posters will be provided, films shown, speakers obtained, and exhibits planned. It seems so good and so much that one feels there must be a charge for it. The only cost is a letter or phone call to ask for the service and the return is the immense satisfaction in having contributed to our joint health effort.

It takes more than a Health Department, a hospital or a clinic, to eradicate disease. What we need is a religion of good health and that must come from the people themselves guided and directed by their leaders in health, medicine, religion, welfare, recreation, politics, and all other phases of community life.

Maternal health presents a tragic picture in Harlem with proportionately about three times as many women dying in childbirth as women in the rest of the city. Most of the deaths are from preventable causes. Some of these causes could be removed if every community agency would continuously help to remind the women of the community of the need of seeking and maintaining adequate prenatal care throughout their pregnancies. Far too many still wait until labor starts before seeking any medical attention. Fortunately nature has set out the bearers of children more distinctively than she has the syphilitic and the tuberculous. There is thus, little excuse for the community to permit the future generations to be born without all the care and guidance in the prenatal stage that medical science and nursing skill can give them and are prepared in this district to give them. Again, health education by us all implemented by the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee is the answer.

From maternal health we go directly to infant health, an outstanding index of health

(*Continued on page 366*)

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Dies' "Communist" Charges: Congressman Martin Dies' charges that Mrs. Mary Bethune, William Pickens, and E. Franklin Frazier are communists were branded as "utterly fantastic and vicious", by Walter White. In a letter, dated Thursday, September 24, the secretary told the Texas congressman that his unwarranted attack has supplied excellent ammunition to the enemies of America.

The letter stated further: "Your attack on distinguished Negroes, with the apparent southern attitude that it is safe to do so because they are not able to hit back effectively would be almost the final crushing blow to the Negro's patriotism if he did not take into account the source of these attacks."

Dies charged 19 federal officials, including the three distinguished Negroes, of being leaders of an allegedly Communist-dominated organization. His charges were inserted in the Congressional Record for September 24.

Need for Food Cost Legislation: In endorsing the recently released NAACP report of a survey comparing the cost of food in Harlem and other sections of the city, Newbold Morris, president of the New York City Council, told the NAACP. September 10 that it would be a long step forward if the council would adopt legislation for the grading of meat and the alleviation of other problems facing the metropolitan housewife.

He urged that the NAACP publication, "Food Costs MORE in Harlem," be widely circulated among consumers, public officials, and legislators.

Teachers Win Raise: The Deep South lost another battle Thursday, September 24, when a decree raising the pay of Negro teachers in Duval county, Fla., to the level of white teachers was signed.

Colored teachers filed their suits against the school board in December, 1941. They sought the aid of NAACP lawyers, who fought a motion to dismiss, a petition to intervene in the case, and a motion to stay proceedings pending determination of an appeal from the order denying the petition to intervene. They were all filed by the Florida Education Association, composed of white teachers.

Attorney S. D. McGill of Jacksonville, Florida, was counsel for the Negro teachers, in cooperation with Thurgood Marshall, special counsel, and Prentice Thomas, assistant counsel.

The final step toward equalization of Negro and white teacher salaries in Tennessee was made when Negro teachers in Chattanooga received, on October 1, checks with increases in salaries totaling $80,140.35 over last year. The Chattanooga teachers salary suit was fought by the NAACP in 1941.

AEF Racial Bigots: The War Department has been asked to move to eliminate friction in the American Expeditionary Forces caused by southern white soldiers

PANCAS, Philadelphia, Pa. Persons pictured above brought in at least twenty members each

In its most successful drive the Philadelphia Branch secured 4106 members, $5596.85, in its recent membership drive conducted by Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, NAACP National Field Secretary. The local co-chairmen of the drive were Rev. E. Luther Cunningham and Mrs. Katie M. Greene

W. C. Wingate, Mrs. Virgil Spaulding, Theodore Spaulding, Mrs. Genevieve Morton, Richard Winston, Walker K. Jackson, Dr. Voight Jones, Mrs. Lillie Long Greene, Dr. Thomas Georges, Eleanor Booker, Mrs. Ruth Barbour, Mrs. Ethel C. Clarke, Susan E. Masseaux, Mrs. Margarey Fortie, Arthur Lee, Israel W. Waff, Lorenzo Fendall, Mrs. Leona Pressley, Mrs. Annette Nash, Charles Thomas, Mrs. Marie Davis, Gladys Bowie, James Jones, Joseph Williams, Mrs. Ida Watson, Mrs. Vivian McGee, Mrs. Anna M. Pollitt, Nellie Freeman, Selwayn T. Beavers, Mrs. Sadie Anderson, Samuel Ridley, Mrs. Mary Anderson, Waverly White, Lida B. Lee, Reba Bowie, Beatrice Dorsey, Gretchen James, Mrs. Florida Williams, Florence Lee, Francis Murray, William Mason, Carolyn Davenport, Mrs. Katie M. Greene, Dr. Harry Greene, Mrs. Mary B. Smith, John Perdue, Roy Lightfoot, Henry C. Sparks, M. N. Patterson, Mary Louise Allen, Nona Bragg, Mrs. Jean Harvey, Mary Nash, Ruby Smith, Mrs. E. Finch Morris, Willabelle Clayton, William L. Smith, Dorothy Cannon, Jennie Jones, Marian Hill, Ollie Duncan, Susie Washington, Captain Benjamin Ammons, Hattie Conway, Mary L. Oakley

seeking to establish jim crow traditions in England. To Secretary of War Stimson, on October 2, the NAACP said:

"We strongly urge the issuance by the War Department, and perhaps by our Commander in Chief, of stern orders that any American soldier who causes friction of this character shall be immediately court-martialed and given the severest penalty provided by law and regulation if found guilty.

"We further recommend that commanding officers who lack the necessary firmness and freedom from prejudice should be replaced. Trouble-makers, white or colored, southern or northern, must be shown that winning the war is more important than trying to tell the British authorities and people who they should or should not treat as human beings and as soldiers fighting to wipe out the Hitler theory of race."

Army Nurse Beaten: On October 2, the attention of the Department of Justice was called to the mystery surrounding the beating and jailing of Second Lt. Nora Green, of the Tuskegee Army Air Corps School medical detachment, September 12. The NAACP told Victor Rotnem, chief of the department's Civil Rights Section, that "it becomes more and more apparent that strong forces are at work trying to hush up the matter" and demanded immediate investigation.

Lt. Green was badly beaten by Montgomery, Alabama, police and jailed for several hours following a dispute over a bus seat for which she had already paid her fare. The Army nurse was returning to Tuskegee from a shopping tour in Montgomery, made following her selection for overseas duty.

Colored officers and men at the Tuskegee base, it is reported, are under military orders not to talk.

Police Brutality Charged: Circuit Judge Harry F. Russell was presented with affidavits, September 26, by the St. Louis branch, charging nine cases of police brutality towards Negroes picked up for various reasons including suspicion, traffic charges and peace disturbances.

Judge Russell, who says that he has been reliably informed of over 20 cases of police brutality in the past year, has announced that he will order the October grand jury to investigate the "horrible situation" involving allegations of physical injury such as broken noses and broken ear-drums from police mistreatment.

Typists Win Jobs: As a result of its negotiations with the Columbus General Depot, a United States Army agency, the Columbus branch announced, September 30, that Negro girls were placed in the agency's office as typists.

This is the first time Negro girls have been hired in this capacity in that area. Heretofore, they have had to go to Dayton, Ohio, for such jobs.

Soldier Condemned to Die: Edmund Reed, a Negro soldier from Fort Benning, Georgia, was convicted for murder and given the death penalty, although, according to A. T. Walden, legal counsel for the defense, the "verdict of the jury was certainly not a reflection of the feeling of the majority of the white people in the community."

Reed fatally shot a city policeman and wounded an M.P. when he was arrested and brutally beaten by the men. Reed had overstayed a three-day furlough and was taken into custody by the M.P. whose gun he snatched in the struggle.

A new trial was set for October 16.

Branch News

California: The Bakersfield branch reports the purchase of fourteen gold certificate memberships obtained through the efforts of Thomas McManus, who is also a gold certificate member. John E. Ward is president of the branch and Clara B. Howard, secretary.

Connecticut: Members of the Bridgeport branch attended a conference to end discrimination, held at the New Haven Labor Temple, October 1, at which A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist church, New York, was one of the speakers.

Iowa: A certificate of merit was awarded by the national board to Ike Smalls, president of the Des Moines branch, for more than doubling the local membership during the first six months of his administration. Clara Webb and F. O. Morrow, representatives at the national conference, made their reports at the September 27 meeting at which Mr. Smalls received his award.

Illinois: Lt. Gov. Charles Poletti, of New York State, was the principal speaker at the meeting of the Chicago branch, October 2.

Massachusetts: At the meeting of the New Bedford branch, held September 25, 100 new memberships were obtained, bringing membership to approximately 350. Dr. J. Tunstall Parham is president of the branch.

New Jersey: At the last regular meeting of the Paterson branch, September 25, the theme was "Full citizenship rights for all." A brief forum was held pertaining to housing and employment conditions as they directly affected the Negro.

New York: The report of the annual conference was read at the first monthly meeting of the Peekskill branch, September 25, which was presided over by Harry Stewart.

Dr. Leon W. Scott, former president of

(*Continued on page 366*)

Youth Council News

The fourth annual student conference was held at Clark college, Atlanta, Georgia, October 30 through November 1. Buell G. Gallegher, president of Talladega college, delivered the keynote address and James P. Brawley, president of Clark, welcomed the delegates.

The conference, which discussed the problems raised for Negro youth during and after the war, had as main speaker, Thurgood Marshall, special counsel.

Other speakers and leaders of panel discussions included Forrester B. Washington of the Atlanta School of Social Work, Rose Mae Withers, secretary of the Southern Division of the National Student Conference of the YWCA, Arthur D. Shores, Birmingham, Alabama; T. Rupert Broady, research assistant at Tuskegee institute, Charles H. Houston, Washington attorney and member of the association's national legal committee; J. W. Nicholson, Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta; Rev. James H. Robinson, pastor of the Church of the Master and national board member; Frank McCallister, secretary of the Southern Workers' Defense League of Atlanta, T. M. Alexander, Atlanta; W. S. Allen, in charge of defense training at Tuskegee institute, and Madison S. Jones, Jr., youth director.

CLARK COLLEGE STUDENT NAACP. Front row left to right: Anderson Davis, president; Jewel Lemon, assistant secretary; Philip Harley, newly elected president; Miss Yewla Murphy, secretary and Clarence D. Coleman; on the second row right end is Professor E. Luther Brooks, faculty advisor for the group. This group entertained the NAACP Student Conference in October

PANCAS, Roanoke, Va., seated: The Rev. James R. Johnson, Jr., president local branch, Miss Justine K. Spencer, C. C. Williams, treasurer, Mrs. L. C. Downing, and W. C. Rose, secretary. Standing: Richard Birks, Y. Hutsona, vice president, W. E. Muse, J. A. Prunty, P. J. Preston, John Penn, and R. W. Hall. Absent from the group, Rev. William J. Simmons. Officers of the PANCA CLUB are Miss Justine K. Spencer, president, Y. Butsona, vice president, Richard Birks, secretary, W. C. Rose, assistant secretary, and C. C. Williams, treasurer

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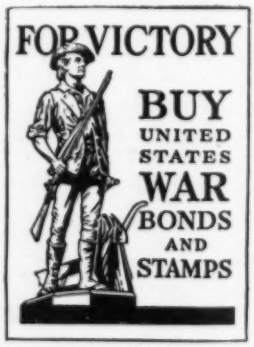

Race Relations

(*Continued from page 348*)

plete the elementary grades. After a year or two, economic conditions force them out into the labor market, and it is only the fortunate few who make the fifth standard. What kind of education is provided can be imagined from the fact that in 1938 the Kenya Government spent £80,284 on African education, of which £53,949 went in subsidies to European missions. "In sub-elementary schools children are taught what our children learn in their first standard," writes Dr. Norman Leys in his recent book: "Colour Bar in East Africa." The author adds: "and most of the 150,000 children who in Kenya get any education at all never get beyond them."

The educational report of the colony for 1938 in referring to African education observes that "very few of these schools obtain grants because the elementary schools in the next grade absorb all the available funds." In 1938 the Government suspended its subsidies to mission schools, the cost of running

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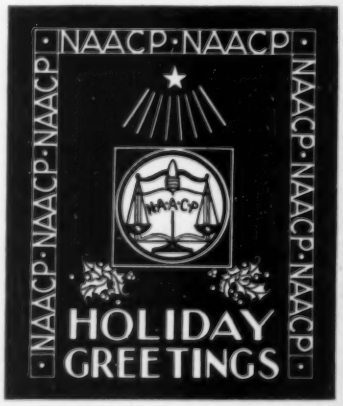

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NEXT MONTH

NUTRITION AND RACIAL SUPERIORITY

By JOSEPHINE SCHUYLER

which now devolves upon the missions themselves and the fees which are demanded of parents. Dr. Leys quite firmly asserts that "many thousands of children are expelled from schools because their parents will not or cannot pay their fees."

There is no government secondary education for Africans in Kenya, and the average cost of education was 12 shillings for each native child in the government elementary schools and 4 shillings and 3 pence in the mission schools. Of the 1,160 European children in government schools in the same year £49,000 was spent; the net cost for tuition only being reckoned at £23. 13 Shillings each.

Gold Coast education for the natives is considered to be the most advanced in British Tropical Africa. Here the cost per pupil in the Government primary schools is £6 .4 shillings and in the mission schools, 26 shillings. Although the educational allotment rose from £25,000 in 1915 to just over £250,000 in 1931, its percentage of the Government revenue increased from 3 per cent to 7 per cent within those eighteen years. Not a very impressive record, whichever way you look at it. And less so when it is stated that in 1931 only one child out of every five on the Gold Coast was receiving any kind of schooling, and less than half per cent passed the primary grade. Experts on Colonial education have calculated that at the present rate of progress, and disregarding any increase of population, it will take 700 years before the Africans even in so advanced a colony as the Gold Coast are made literate.

Lamentably small are the proportions of their total revenues which Colonial Governments spend on native education. "So long ago as 1919, 18 per cent of the revenue of the Philippines was spent on education," observes Norman Leys. "In no country in our colonial Empire is the proportion as high as 5 per cent. In the countries of British East and British West Africa it lies between 1.5 per cent and 3 per cent" (*The Colour Bar In East Africa,*" pp. 130–135).

Indian Illiteracy Widespread

The same state of affairs exist in India, where illiteracy is even more widespread. After 150 years of English rule, 345 million Indians cannot read or write any language. Two-thirds of 700,000 Indian villages have no schools of any kind. While the government spends 23.9 per cent of the budget on military, 22.5 per cent on debt interest, 9.6 per cent on police and jails, only 5.7 per cent is spent on education! Is it any wonder why India is so backward?

Let us see why, after all these years of colonizing, the British have failed utterly to make anything like the cultural progress which the Soviets have achieved among Asiatic peoples, who, up to a few decades ago, were just as backward as the Africans and Indians.

Aim of Soviet Education

The aim of education in the Soviet Union is to make socialist beings of its citizens, to fit all of them regardless of race or color, for working collectively in the common interests of all. Its educational policy is not designed as in capitalist countries to equip its men and women for individual careers, in which each citizen struggles for personal advancement against the other regardless of the social consequences to the community as a whole.

"The economic basis of the Soviet Union is, as is well known, a Socialist system of national economy," writes Madame Maisky, wife of the Russian Ambassador in London, "in which private profit-making and the exploitation of man by man is excluded, and the training and education of our children is in conformity with this principle . . . While our teachers and our leaders enjoin upon our young people the need to be loyal, devoted, brave Soviet citizens, they also stress the right of all other countries to Self-Determination, to an equal place in the sun."[1] That is to say, national chauvenism is rejected, and Soviet children are taught to regard all other peoples as equal to themselves. Racial arrogance as it is known in imperialist countries is entirely repudiated by Soviet educationalists.

It is impossible to propound collectivist ideas to children who will later have to go out into a competitive world, where only the favored few can reach the top, the high-born and the influentially assisted. But in the U.S.S.R. special ability is fostered. Education from the primary grade to the university was until quite recently free for all citizens, but a small fee is now payable by certain types of university and technical students.

Imperialists' Aims

In Tropical Africa, education is nowhere either free or compulsory. And the reason is in the imperialist aim, which has been quite clearly amplified by Mr. A. Mayhew, Joint Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonial Office, in his book on *"Education In The Colonial Empire."*

"Is it our primary aim," asks Mr. Mayhew, "to provide effective labor for the development of the country's resources under European direction and control? In this case the village communities in the native reserves would be regarded primarily as reservoirs of labor supply for the white men . . . Or is our aim the training of the native population for the development of his own land and of his industries? . . . Or is it right and possible to combine both these aims?" (*Education in the Colonial Empire,*" pp. 45.)

Mr. Mayhew does not leave it for the reader to decide. Having observed British Colonial educational policy in action, he replies to his own enquiry: "Left to himself, the African is not an ideal wage-earning employee," we are assured . . . "If he is to work harder, longer, and more honestly and continuously, education must inculcate ideas of sanctity of contract and of ordinary honesty to his employer . . . This is the task of the urban and mines schools—which it may take generations to perform. Even the most effective schools will not ensure for European capital the kind of labour that it needs."—(*Education in the Colonial Empire,*" pp. 140.)

(*Continued on page* 365)

[1] London "News-Chronicle, Jan. 14, 1942.

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

ARKANSAS

Scipio A. Jones
201 Century Bldg., Little Rock
Telephone: 4-0907

Waters McIntosh
1900 Howard St., Little Rock

CALIFORNIA

H. L. Richardson
1557 7th Street, Oakland
Telephone: 5998

CONNECTICUT

Earley Emmett Cable
70 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven
Telephone: 5-0302

DELAWARE

Louis L. Redding
1002 French St., Wilmington
Telephone: 3-1924

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Thos. P. Bomar
1944 9th St., N. W., Washington
Telephone: DE 4314-DE 2353

George Arthur Parker
1922 13th St., N. W., Washington
Telephone: North 8843

KANSAS

John Q. Sayers
P. O. Box 186, Hill City
Telephone: 1

MARYLAND

William T. Buckner
2429 McCulloh St., Baltimore
Telephone: Lafayette 0137

MICHIGAN

Floyd H. Skinner
Michigan at Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids
Telephone: 8-9042

MISSISSIPPI

S. D. Redmond
115½ N. Farish St., Jackson
Telephone: 4-7484

MISSOURI

Harrison W. Hollie
11 N. Jefferson, St. Louis
Telephone: Newstead 504

NEW JERSEY

J. Mercer Burrell
23 Howard Street, Newark
Telephone: Ma 3-4709

NORTH CAROLINA

F. W. Williams
Suite 3, Lincoln Bldg., Winston-Salem
Telephones: 7955 and 2-3275

OHIO

Harry E. Davis
202-6 Engineers Bldg., Cleveland
Telephone: MA-1320

Chester K. Gillespie
416 Hickox Bldg., Cleveland
Telephone: Cherry 1835

OKLAHOMA

Cecil E. Robertson
114 1-2 Court Street, Muskogee
Telephone: 836

PENNSYLVANIA

Raymond Pace Alexander
1900 Chestnut St., Philadelphia
Telephone: Rittenhouse 9960

Theron B. Hamilton
527 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh
Telephone: Grant 3137

VIRGINIA

Martin A. Martin
Southern Aid Building, Danville
Telephone: 2475

Negro Migratory Workers

(*Continued from page* 355)

dicaps. It was impossible, for example, to find a hospital bed for isolation of a 21 year old girl with a florid eruption of secondary syphilis. After a few injections she failed to return for treatments; how many new cases she has generated since we'll never know. The quality of provisions in the state-supervised venereal disease clinics is more of a tribute to the resourcefulness of public health workers than a sign of public recognition of the needs. Abandoned roadside saloons and second floors in the village fire-house were used for clinics; examinations were necessarily public and hasty and for privacy the lavatory sink often had to serve as examining table.

Social Problems

The social burdens caused by degraded living are not only in way of disease. Crime also plays its part. The police report large numbers of assaults usually with a background of liquor and fights over the limited supply of women. The police have attempted to finger-print all the migrants as a form of "crime prevention" on the theory that the "bad ones" will therefore stay away. A Negro social worker, however, reports a force in the opposite direction: the migrants have been deceived so often about the rate of pay they will receive that only the most abject and demoralized (hence more criminal) tolerate it and return. Even this demoralized group, nevertheless, summoned enough solidarity at one point to strike for the originally promised pay. Since pickers were scarce that summer—especially with truckloads reported detained in the south by police because of defense worker shortage—the migrants were able to win their demands.

Placing Responsibility

The entire question of responsibility for migrant welfare has recently been under debate. With the sharper needs of the war effort, such problems have been temporarily shelved, but the fact remains that 12% of New Jersey's total harvest man-hours are furnished by migrants and 36% of the state's cultivated areas are harvested by them. The foremost, immediate need is decent housing, so that it is encouraging to learn that plans are actually under way for constructing camps for the migrants with federal funds in the near future.

The responsibility for migrant welfare is not only federal—since it is an interstate matter—but local as well. Since local labor is not available at the offered wages in sufficient numbers, it follows that the potato prices received and paid are due only to the cheapness of out-of-state labor. The differential should, therefore, be furnished by the state in social services. Or, as the Deputy Commissioner of the State Department of Labor summarized in the Congressional Investigation on Interstate Migration, July, 1940: " . . . if it is assumed that migratory labor is essential to the economic and social welfare of the state, then it follows that the state should make certain fair contributions."

Particularly is this true with the increasing share of state budgets contributed by federal grants-in-aid. The wisest basis for expending such funds must be need, rather than nativity. Only with such a philosophy can national fitness be developed to the uniformly high level necessary to win this war and to maintain democracy.

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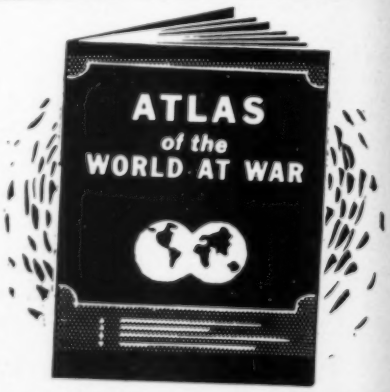

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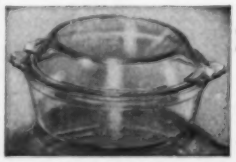
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College and School News

(*Continued from page* 341)

There are 1200 students enrolled in seventeen defense courses at Howard. L. K. Downing is Dean of the School of Architecture and Engineering. Students interested in the defense courses should write to him.

Lincoln University (Mo.) reports a decrease of enrollment of 16 per cent under that of last year. At the end of September 503 students were enrolled.

Shaw University reports an enrollment of 388 students from fifteen states. Of the 166 freshmen only 40 are men. There will be three co-eds to every man at Shaw this term.

Shaw supervised extension courses are being offered at Franklinton, Goldsboro, New Bern, Oxford, Rocky Mount, Raleigh and Wilson.

New staff members are: Dr. R. A. Young, A.B. (Howard), M.A. (Chicago), Ph.D. (Pennsylvania), formerly biologist at Howard and North Carolina College; Miss Mary Miller, A.B. (Howard), former art instructor at Shaw, Howard, St. Augustine's and Fisk; Mrs. Newell D. Eason, B.S. (Virginia State), M.A. (Columbia), former science instructor at Barber Scotia; Miss Eunice Jackson, A.B. (Brooklyn), M.A. (Union Theo. Sem.); Miss Mary McNeil, R.N.; Miss Patricia Stewart, A.B. (Howard), A.M. (Columbia); Miss Thelma Nelson, A.B. (Clark), B.S. in L.S. (Atlanta Univ.); Cashius M. Thomas, A.B. (Fisk), M.S. (Michigan and Harvard); Miss Alma Coppedge, A.B. (Shaw); and Miss Rubie L. Jones, B.S.C. (N.C. College).

Race Relations

(*Continued from page* 363)

There you have it from the foremost authority on Colonial education. The Negro is lazy, yet the English language has acquired the phrase: "to work like a n . . . . ." for one who works industriously. Where is the compatibility between the two viewpoints? It would appear that the African does not regard with needful reverence the right of the white man to exploit him to death in return for vanishing wages, and therefore such education as he receives shall be directed towards making him duly observant of his sacred obligations to the European capitalists who has taken away his land and erected the prerequisite conditions for transforming him into a helot. It is extraordinary how Soviet education managed to convert backward Asiatic natives from a not "ideal wage-earning employee" into an enthusiastic, cooperative worker in less than twenty years. The result in the U.S.S.R. is quite contrary to Mr. Mayhew's conviction that "it may take generations to perform."

British Policy Resented

Africans do not find Mr. Mayhew's views appealing, for Lord Hailey points out: "There are Africans, especially on the west coast, who feel that an educational course which is designed to suit African conditions carries with it its own confession of inferiority. There are again Europeans who feel that the policy ministers to the prejudice of those who, apprehensive of the economic competition of the native, would confine him to a separate world of thought and social habit." (*"An African Survey,"* pp. 1281–2.)

However, the Colonial Office Advisory Committee of 1925 assured all who were willing to note that "the door of advancement through higher education must be increasingly open for those who, by character, ability and temperament show themselves fitted to profit by such education."

This is just a grandiloquent phrase, for in West Africa, out of a native population of nearly 30,000,000, just thirty are doctors in the Government Medical Service. In the Union of South Africa, the number hardly exceeds a dozen; in East Africa, two!

Science and technical research are entirely beyond the ken of African natives. Throughout British Tropical Africa south of the Zambasi, there is not a single research institute or school of technology open to the Negroes, not even a single public library. In 1941, British friends of Africans established a small library in Johannesburg in memory of the English novelist, Winifred Holtby, whose sympathy for these oppressed blacks often found expression in acts of kindness when she visited South Africa. But this is an individual effort only. On the other hand, throughout the once colonial territories of Czarist Imperialism, libraries have sprung up with almost mushroom-like rapidity; institutes of applied science are common.

Soviet Cultural Renaissance

The resurgence of learning has had its effect in a press whose scope is wider and greater than anywhere else in the civilized world. Every national section of the varied peoples making up what is commonly called "Russia," has its own newspapers in its own language. Factories have their own newspapers; collective farms theirs. Just before the First World War, there were published in the Czarist Empire 859 newspapers, with a total circulation of 2,700,000. Most of these were printed in Russian and controlled by bankers, large industrialists and big landlords. Policy was largely dictated by the Russo-Asiatic Bank, and the newspapers were, therefore, quite naturally organs of the aggressive policy of Czarist Imperialism. In 1939, there were 8,550 newspapers, with a circulation of 47,520,000 copies daily. "Pravda" (Truth) and "Isvestia" (The Gazette), the chief organs of the Communist Party and Soviet Government, respectively, have large circulations running into 2,000,000 copies. Each industry has its own newspapers, and so have the Army and Navy. "Red Star," the paper of the Red Army is one of the most reliable military journals in the U.S.S.R. In addition there are travelling newspapers, which go into the rural, agricultural districts during the sowing and harvesting seasons. Periodicals and magazines of all kinds are numerous. The Soviet Union today offers a veritable author's paradise.

Russian Literature

The cultural emancipation of the formerly colonial peoples and national authorities has given a tremendous fillip to the production of all forms of literature. In the Central Asian republics, for example, the number of books published increased from 1,936,000 copies in 1925 to 23,400,000 in 1930. In Azerbaidjan alone, there were 8,100,000 books published in 1938. Books are being published in over 100 languages, alphabets for 40 of which have been developed since the Revolution. The classics of the great writers of the world are widely popularized, and literature is not the preserve of a single section or group within the Soviet Union. Agitation and propaganda are designed to awaken the interest of the more backward races in world literature. The native peoples of Africa and India are too poor to develop their own literature, and are not aided by the government. Moreover, the overwhelming majority of the people are illiterate and therefore even where one or two native publishers have attempted to publish books by local writers, the distribution is very limited indeed. It can hardly be recognized what an extension of the British and American publishing market there would be if there were literate populations in Asia and Africa. As it is, there is no incentive for young colonial intellectuals to follow writing as a profession, and everybody is the loser thereby.

The efflorescence of national cultures in the Soviet Union, once the most backward and illiterate country in Europe, has led to an interchange between the different peoples and races enriching the whole Union. Their cultural growth has served to break down the racial prejudices and animosities of long standing. While developing their own individual cultures, each borrows from the rest, and there has been a rebirth of poetry and drama. Music, opera and the theatre in the various national republics have been sponsored in their growth by the Soviet Government. Georgia, Armenia and Kazakhstan have in recent years produced prominent writers.

It is a truism that mass education and culture cannot flourish without state aid, and in the Soviet Union money has not only been forthcoming for guns, but for the purpose of founding art centers everywhere. Today there is no country in the world where writers and artists are so honored as in the U.S.S.R., where these moulders of the nation's cultural life have a status which in capitalist countries is generally reserved for bankers, successful industrialists, brewers and mediocre politicians. First values really come first.

To summarize: one can say that the territories and peoples that were once subjected to Russian Imperialism, as India, Africa, and the West Indies are to British Imperialism, have come into their right of Self-Determination since the Revolution. But the form is less political than cultural. National boundaries as they are understood under capitalism do not exist. It is the differences of culture which actually mark the division of the nearly two hundred different races and peoples in the U.S.S.R., and even these are now, under the prevailing conditions tending to fuse.

East and West have disappeared in the Soviet Union, giving the lie to those who persist that the barriers between white and colored can never fall; that the two are mutually antipathetic. There is no inherent clash between color or race.

A socialistic economy has proved that artificially created dissensions can be wiped out in quite a short time. Socialism unites. Imperialism divides. The idea of national and cultural independence and political unity among multi-racial and national groups is possible only along the lines of a socialized planned economy. For "culture feeds on the sap of economics and a material surplus is necessary so that culture may grow, develop and become subtle."

The Tarkars

(*Continued from page* 350)

ditions? A group of Negroes, retaining the tribal identity of their fathers, might have been a very potent obstacle to the establishment of the debt slavery which has followed chattel slavery in the Deep South.

Phonograph recordings should have been made of the Tarkar language from the speech of those eight still alive in 1914. Some scholar should have compiled a vocabulary of their tongue—as ancient as the language of the Babylonians—and written, from their traditions, a history of the tribe from its origins in Africa. Moving pictures should have been taken of the Tarkars in their daily toil and in their social life. Possibly all this might have been done had not the Reconstruction governments of the Southern Negroes and poor whites been overthrown by the planters in league with the Northern industrialists.

But the lingering memory of the Tarkars is a part of the unforgettable tradition of America's fourteen million Negroes—a tradition which is being rediscovered, which will flower in that new America, already sinking its roots in the South where the Tarkars toiled and dreamed and died.

Branch News

(*Continued from page* 361)

the New Rochelle branch, has received a certificate of merit from the national office for his outstanding work. The award was made at the annual conference and sent to Mr. Scott by mail.

Pennsylvania: The Erie branch celebrated, on September 27, the first anniversary of the granting of its charter. The principal address was delivered by Rev. Joseph Austin, on "International Co-operation."

Tennessee: Rev. J. Winston Henderson, pastor of the St. Paul AME church, was speaker and discussion leader at the meeting of the Nashville branch September 29. J. L. Gunn, local manager of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company, was appointed chairman of the membership committee, whose campaign begins the first week in November.

Texas: The Fort Worth branch had as its principal speaker for the September meeting, R. E. Neely, Tarrant county juvenile officer, who spoke on, "Problems of Juvenile Delinquency."

West Virginia: The first meeting of the year of the Charleston branch was held October 11. Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., of New York City, was the principal speaker.

BUY WAR BONDS

Tuberculosis in Harlem

(*Continued from page* 259)

conditions in any community. Central Harlem's infant mortality is still 50 per cent higher than the rest of the city's but a note of optimism may be sounded. Not so long ago infant mortality in Central Harlem was 100 per cent higher than in the rest of the city. Twenty years ago the city's infant mortality rate was higher than Central Harlem's is now! Mothers are more health conscious than are mothers-to-be. Our child health stations are well attended but there are still many infants and pre-school children who receive little or no medical care although free and available. Child health stations exist on a decentralized basis—there being four Health Department stations in our district. I make no rash promise that child hygiene will give us 100 per cent perfect babies and children—there are far too many factors involved. But adequate child hygiene coupled with pediatric facilities can go far in lowering infant mortality, in cutting down on morbidity and in providing well developed, normal children. The existing facilities are not used sufficiently and in this democracy of ours, the only way to achieve that end is through education.

Other Facilities Available

Other phases of public health activity also should be mentioned. Dental care, cancer prevention, safety, nutrition, diabetes, heart diseases and others are of tremendous importance, and it can be shown that people do not use the existing facilities that are offered in any one of these fields, excepting perhaps dental care, to the limit. Heart diseases deserve at least a word because there are more deaths from it than from any other single cause—even tuberculosis. There are preventable factors in the heart diseases that make some effort in health education in this field worthwhile.

War time, with its accompanying high living costs, food shortages, additional work, increased nervous strain and tension, make it imperative that as much disease be prevented as possible. This is further augmented by the fact that there will be increasingly less medical and nursing personnel. It is our patriotic duty to keep well. To carry the idea further, it is the patriotic duty of those of us in the position to do so, to teach and show our less fortunate brethern how they too can conserve their health. I see it as a special war function of every church, agency, club and individual in the community to participate in whatever health education programs they can, getting the lead and guidance from the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee.

Imagine we are celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee in 1962, and I am summarizing the achievements of the twenty years from 1942 to 1962. I would like to be able to say that because of the great activity in health education throughout the district clinic attendance for venereal disease had increased so that delinquency in attendance had ceased to exist, that the case rate for syphilis and gonorrhea had fallen so rapidly that it was about at the city level. I would like to say that so many organizations had requested tuberculosis X-rays surveys that almost all the cases of tuberculosis were known and under adequate supervision; that every individual knew what tuberculosis was and where he could go to be checked up and that he did go, and that instead of comprising 25 per cent of the city's tuberculosis deaths, the Negro population now contributed less than its population percentage. I would like to say that Harlem children were noted for their excellent development, good health, good nutrition. That Harlem mothers had the most active mother's clubs, prenatal clubs, nutrition clubs, parent-teacher organizations in the city. To accomplish all this the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee would have to grow to a tremendous organization, a building of its own, a membership of several thousand, a large and diverse staff of experts with a large volunteer staff backed by every church, club and agency in the district. A dream perhaps, but dreams are the stuff of which reality is made.

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